

- Ecoregions
- ACEC
- Wildlife Allocation
- DRECP Boundary
- Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas

DRECP Ecoregions-Coachella Valley

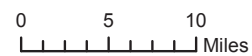


ACECs



9/14/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change



Coachella Valley Subregion ACEC Units

Unit Name	Map #	See Here for Special Unit Management Plan
Big Morongo Canyon	11	Pinto Lucerne Valley and Eastern Slopes Subregion
Chuckwalla	28	Colorado Desert Subregion
Coachella Valley Fringe-toed Lizard	32	Page 181
Dos Palmas	44	Page 192
Whitewater Canyon	133	Page 204

Coachella Valley Fringed-toed Lizard Preserve

National Conservation Lands Ecoregion: Coachella Valley

Description/Location: The Coachella Valley ACEC is part of the multi-agency Coachella Valley Preserve, located in the center of the Coachella Valley near the community of Thousand Palms.

Nationally Significant Values :

The Coachella Valley Preserve is a nationally known model of federal, state, and private conservation efforts for managing sensitive natural areas. It is comprised of three separate Preserves set aside for conservation in a landmark Habitat Conservation Plan signed in 1986, the Whitewater Preserve, the Edom Hill/Willow Hole Preserve and the Thousand Palms Preserve. The **Whitewater Preserve** is largely owned the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) and managed by the BLM. The **Edom Hill Preserve** has a diverse land ownership including the BLM, the Center for Natural Lands Management (CNLM), The Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy (CVMC), the USFWS, the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), and Friends of the Desert Mountains (FODM). The CNLM, the USFWS, the BLM, CDFW, State Parks, CVWD and FODM are all part-owners of the **Thousand Palms Preserve**. Each manages its own land in concert with the others. Preserve rules, policies and procedures are agreed on by the entire management team and are enforced on all land within the Preserve, regardless of owner. Additional conservation lands adjacent to the Preserve and outside of it are continuing to be acquired to augment this Preserve.

Geological values: Strong unidirectional coastal winds funneling through San Gorgonio Pass have created a natural highly mobile dune ecosystem stretching an impressive 45 miles across the northern end of the Coachella Valley. The sand supply comes from intermittent but intense sediment transport from granitic slopes of the San Bernardino and Santa Jacinto mountains that converge at the northwest corner of the Valley. Flood control projects, highways, residential and urban development, and possibly interactions with the many arrays of wind energy turbines have caused a significant loss of dune area and dune mobility. Remaining dune fragments are subject to stabilization with increasing vegetation cover. Loss of mobile dune habitat put species that depend on the mobile dune for their habitat at risk of extirpation. The Coachella Fringe-toed Lizard ACEC assembles part of the remaining functioning dune to afford protection for endemic dune fauna.

Ecological values: The Preserve contains nearly the entire array of desert ecosystems that were once common throughout the entire Coachella Valley: sand dunes, eroded badlands, and palm oases formed around natural springs located along the San Andreas Fault. Most notable among these ecosystems are the blow-sand fields, once the most dominant feature of the Coachella Valley. The spectacular Thousand Palms Oasis includes a mile-long trail that winds past pools containing endangered desert pupfish. Native vegetation includes creosote bush, burrobush, smoke tree and desert lavender, part of this area's unique habitat for wildlife. Noteworthy plant species are the Coachella Valley Milk-vetch (*Astragalus lentiginosus* var. *cochellae*) (Federally endangered) and Chaparral Sand-Verbena (*Abronia villosa* var. *aurita*) (BLM Sensitive Species).

More than 183 bird species have been recorded here, including Gambel's quail, black-throated sparrows, phainopeplas, black-tailed gnatcatchers and American bitterns. Cactus wrens nest among the chollas. Year-round, visitors can view songbirds, upland birds and birds of prey. Spring and fall are good times to view songbirds. Burrowing Owl (BLM Sensitive), Prairie Falcon, and Loggerhead Shrike are BLM desert indicator bird species present.

The Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard depends on this unusual blowsand desert for survival, and "swims" through the sand to escape predators or summer heat on the desert surface. Four other unique wildlife species can also be found here: the Coachella round-tailed ground squirrel, the giant red velvet mite, the flat-tailed horned lizard and the giant palm-boring beetle. Other animals that live in this area include black-tailed jackrabbits, bobcats, and sidewinders.

Cultural values: Due to the available water and the California Palm oases, the Preserve was used for thousands of years by Native Americans, including the Cahuilla Indians. The oasis is part of the network of water sources, habitation sites, and trails that make up the larger, but disappearing, cultural landscape of the Coachella Valley and Colorado Desert. The main oasis was also important in the history of European and American exploration, the Southern Pacific Railroad, early settlement, and conservation efforts in the Coachella Valley and Southern California. During times when the ancient lake Cahuilla was at its near maximum, the shoreline would have been relatively close and year-long human populations would have been more numerous. This incredibly large body of fresh water would have altered the temperatures and climate and also attracted more waterfowl and wildlife.

Scientific values: Archaeological studies are thus far lacking in this area due to the absence of any significantly funded prior project work. There is much yet to learn about the lives and survival techniques utilized by the Native Americans who eked out a living in this harsh and changing environment. In addition to the scientific values associated with the significant ecological and cultural resources, the Preserve also sits astride the San Andreas Fault, and exposes evidence of the boundary between the Continental and Pacific Tectonic Plates. The Preserve is the focus of extensive geologic study related to plate tectonics and earthquakes. The Preserve is visited by thousands of students, researchers, and the general public from all over the world.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: Coachella Valley Fringe-toed Lizard ACEC and Management Plan, 1984/1993

Relevance and Importance Criteria: The Preserve contains nearly the entire array of desert ecosystems that were once common throughout the entire Coachella Valley. Most notable among these ecosystems are the blow-sand fields, once the most dominant feature of the Coachella Valley. The federally listed threatened and state listed endangered Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard depends on this unusual blow-sand desert for survival. Besides the fringe-toed lizard, a wide variety of desert plants and wildlife are protected in the ACEC, which is one of the few conserved landscapes left in the Coachella Valley.

Overarching Goals: Protect and maintain habitat for the Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard (CVFTL) and promote recovery of the species. Protect and maintain habitat for all the species dependent on the soils, water, and other resources found in the Preserve. Provide for public enjoyment of the lands in the Preserve, including the palm oases, desert canyons, and badlands, through development and maintenance of trails and other facilities. Cooperate in developing interpretive programs and environmental education with the other Preserve managers.

Where the CMAs in this Special Management Plan conflict from the CMAs included in Volume II of the Proposed LUPA and Final EIS, the more restrictive CMA would be applied (i.e., management that best supports resource conservation and limits impacts to the values for which the conservation unit was designated), unless otherwise specified.

If this area is included in the National Conservation Lands, the BLM will manage this area to protect the

Nationally Significant Values above. Appropriate multiple uses will be allowed, consistent with this Special Unit Management Plan and the CMAs in Volume II. If an activity is not specifically covered by the CMAs, it will be allowed if it is consistent with the Nationally Significant Values, but prohibited if the uses conflict with those values.

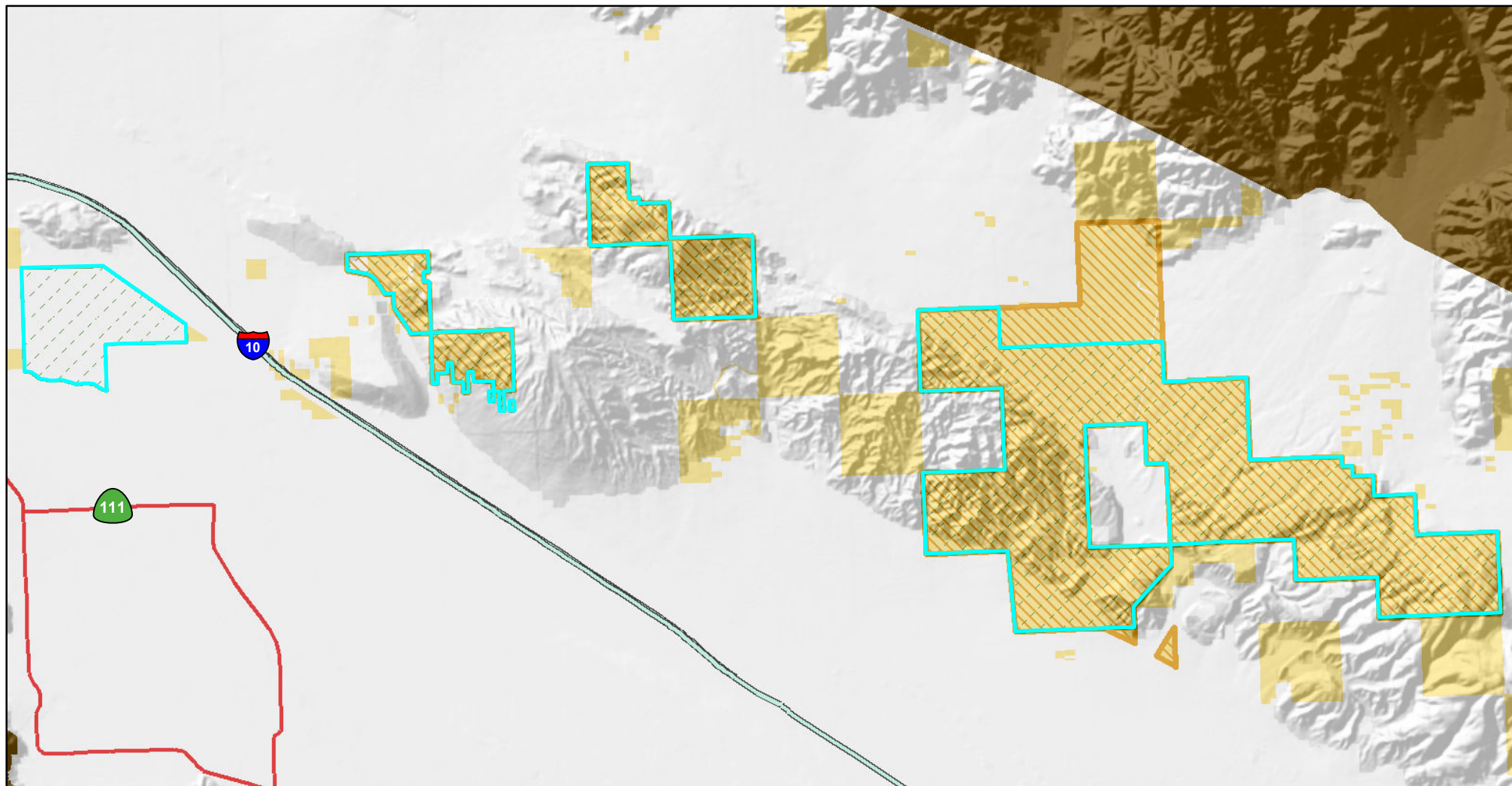
Designation and Acreage by Alternative:

Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	10,274	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	10,257	10,274	0	1%
1	8,406	10,274	0	1%
2	8,403	10,271	0	1%
3	10,274	10,274	0	1%
4	10,274	10,274	0	1%

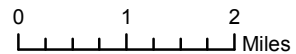
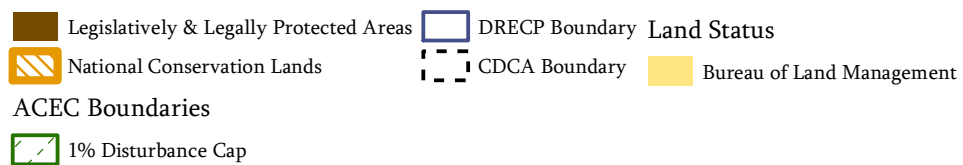
* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

Objectives (desired future conditions) /Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
<p>Objective: Protect the hydrologic flow regime in the palm oases. Protect soils, blow-sand, and sand transport.</p> <p>Management actions: Limit ground disturbing activities in the Preserve. Preserve is closed to OHV use. Install sand fencing to reduce PM10 emissions.</p>	Soil, water, air
<p>Objective: Manage vegetation communities to meet the habitat conservation objectives of the Coachella Valley MSHCP.</p> <p>Management Actions: Preserve is closed to OHV. Surface disturbing activities must not affect habitat or recovery of CVFTL. Conduct monitoring of special status species.</p>	Vegetation - Including special status plant species
<p>Objective: Manage for recovery of Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard, and other sensitive status species.</p> <p>Management Actions: Maintain sand flow by limiting surface disturbance off-site. Augment blow-sand if needed by transporting from off-site. Conduct monitoring of CVFTL and habitat.</p>	Fish and Wildlife - Including special status fish and wildlife species
<p>Objective: Protect the outstanding visual setting and landscape, particularly the palm oases. Recognize the area as a traditional cultural landscape.</p> <p>Management Actions: CVFTL habitat is closed to surface disturbing activities.</p>	Visual Resources

<p>Objective: Manage the Preserve for non-motorized recreation use.</p> <p>Management Actions: Preserve is closed to OHV use. Trails plan developed with Preserve partners will be implemented and maintained.</p>	Trails and Travel Management
<p>Objective: Provide for non-motorized recreation use. Emphasize hiking, horseback riding, photography, and nature study. The Preserve is a Watchable Wildlife site.</p> <p>Management Actions: Coordinate with Preserve partners to develop and maintain interpretive activities, maintain trails, and operate visitor center. Support active volunteer program and community outreach.</p>	Recreation
<p>Objective: Retain public lands. Consolidate through tenure adjustment.</p> <p>Management Action: Acquire inholdings, edge holdings and other interests from willing sellers</p> <p>Management Action: Coordinate with partners for LWCF submissions and other funding and donation opportunities.</p>	Land Tenure
<p>Objective: Limit impact of existing and proposed ROWs on Preserve values.</p> <p>Management Actions: New ROWs are excluded from CVFTL habitat. Proposed ROWs will be considered if they meet objectives of Preserve and Coachella Valley MSHCP. Land use authorization proposals (new, renewal, and amendment) will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis to assess whether they are compatible with the ACEC and its management goals.</p>	Rights of Way (ROW)
<p>Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria.</p> <p>Geothermal: ACECs are closed to geothermal leasing and development unless they overlap with a DFA where geothermal is allowed. Where there is overlap, ACECs are open to geothermal leasing with an NSO stipulation.</p>	Renewable Energy
<p>Objective: Protect CVFTL habitat and other values of the Preserve.</p> <p>Management Actions: Preserve is open to minerals only in State designated mineral resource zones, and if habitat conservation objectives can be met.</p>	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-Energy Leasable



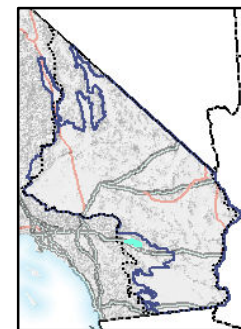
Conservation Footprint

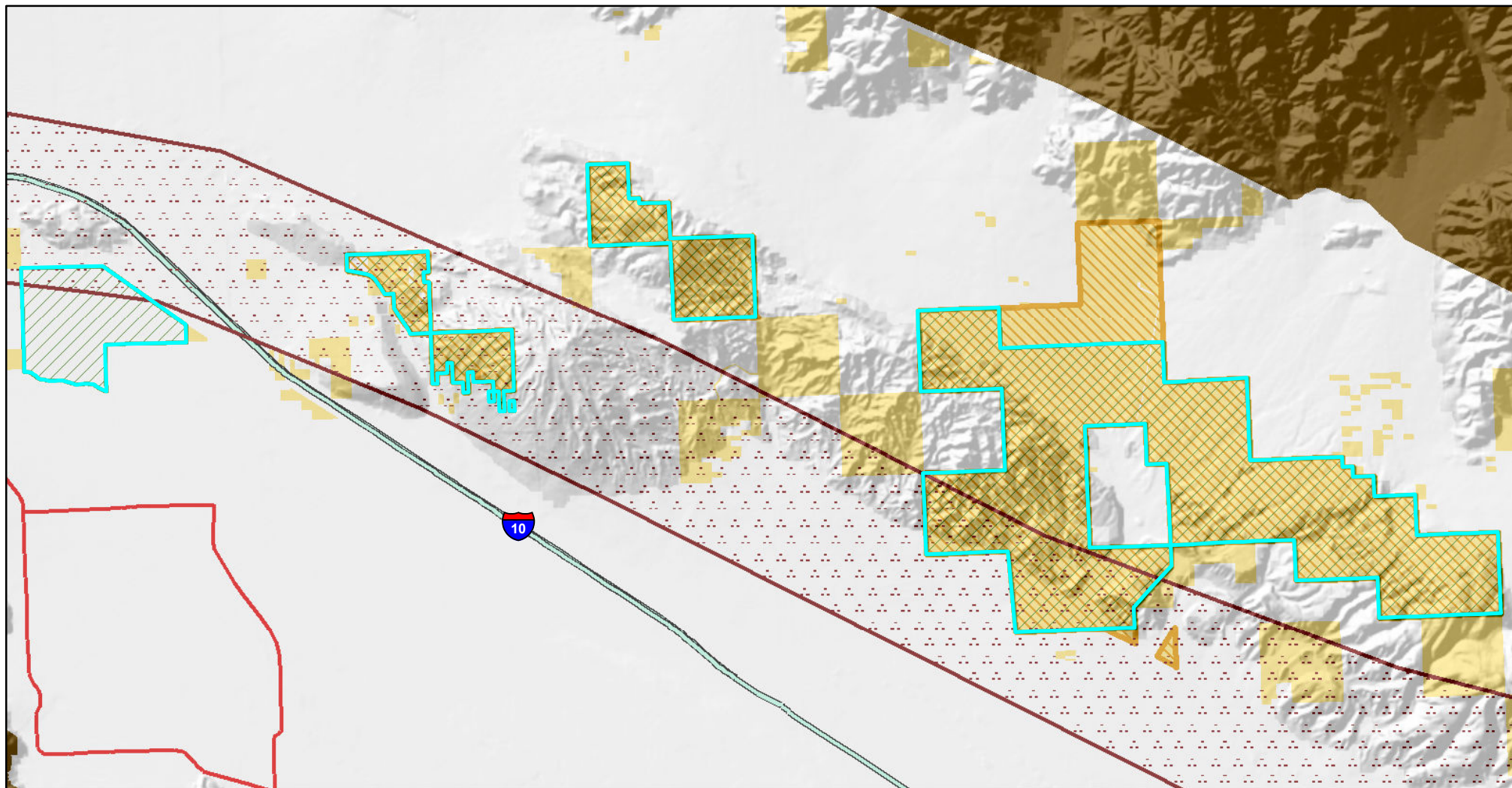


Coachella Valley Fringe-toed Lizard








6/24/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Conservation Footprint

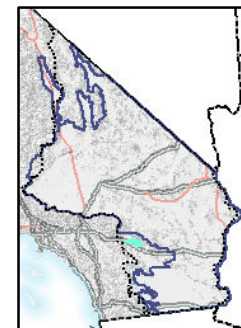
- | | | |
|---|---|---|
|  Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas |  DRECP Boundary | Land Status |
|  National Conservation Lands |  CDCA Boundary |  Bureau of Land Management |
|  Proposed ACEC |  Transmission Corridor | |

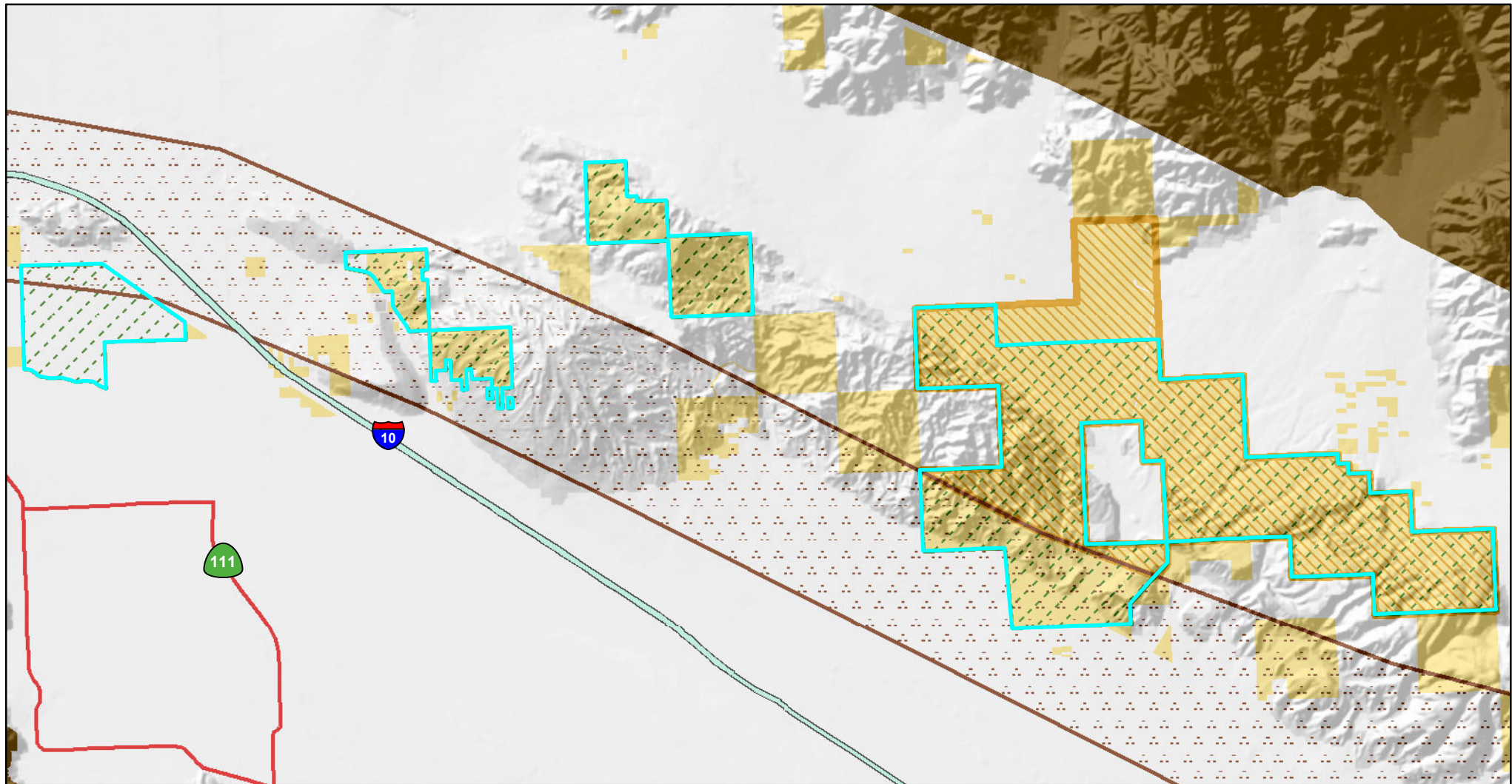
Coachella Valley Fringe-toed Lizard

7/14/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change

0 1 2
Miles





Conservation Footprint

- Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
 Bureau of Land Management
 National Conservation Lands

ACEC Boundaries

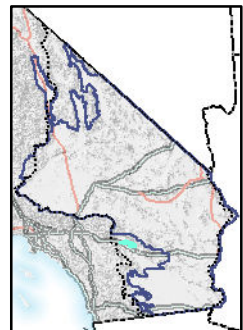
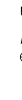
- 1% Disturbance Cap
 CDCA Boundary
 Transmission Corridor

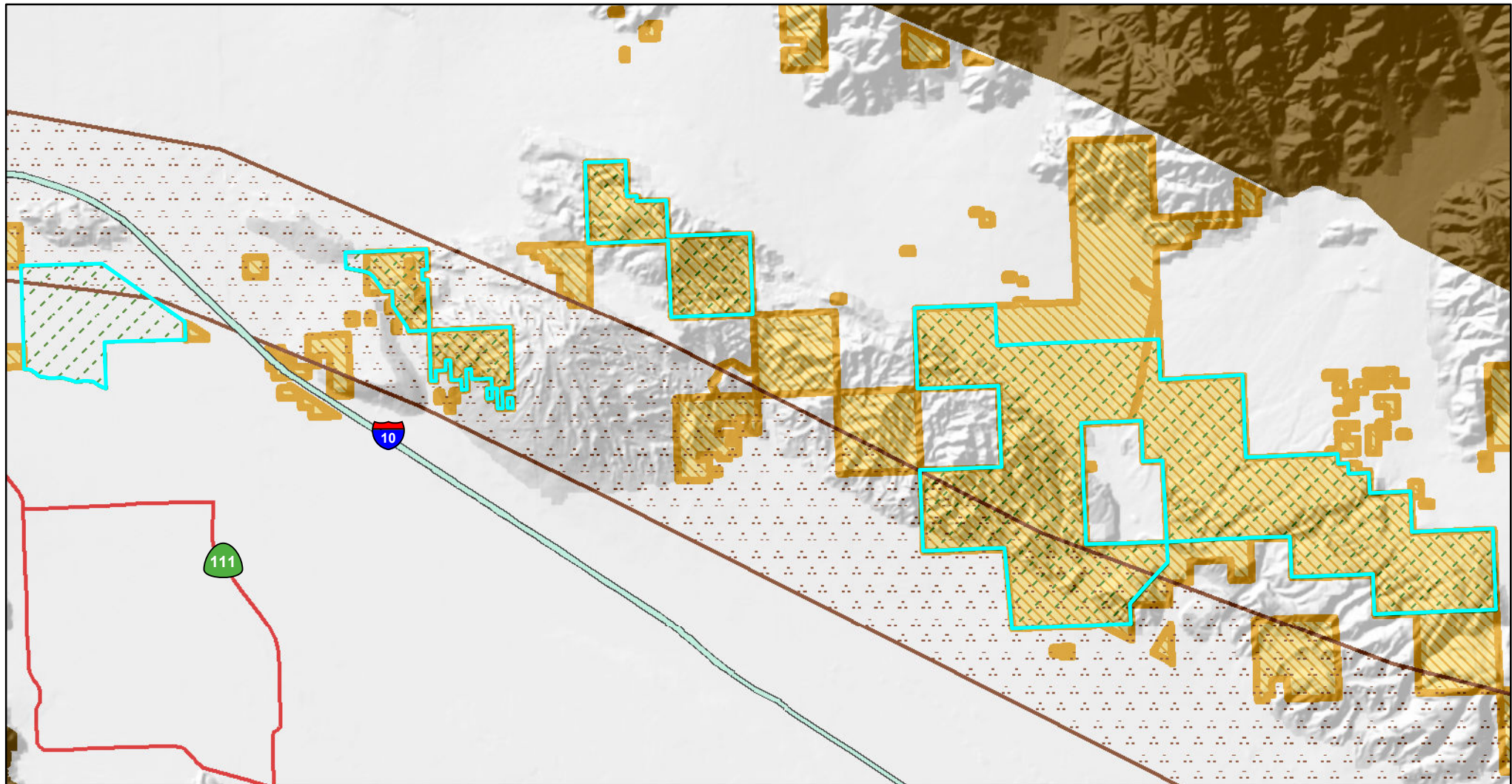
0 2 4 Miles

Coachella Valley Fringe-toed Lizard Alternative 1

8/25/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Conservation Footprint

Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas

National Conservation Lands

ACEC Boundaries

1% Disturbance Cap

DRECP Boundary

CDCA Boundary

Transmission Corridor

Land Status

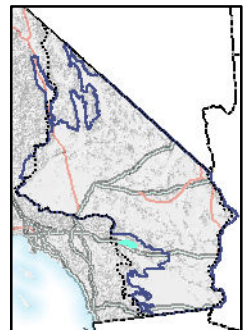
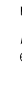
Bureau of Land Management

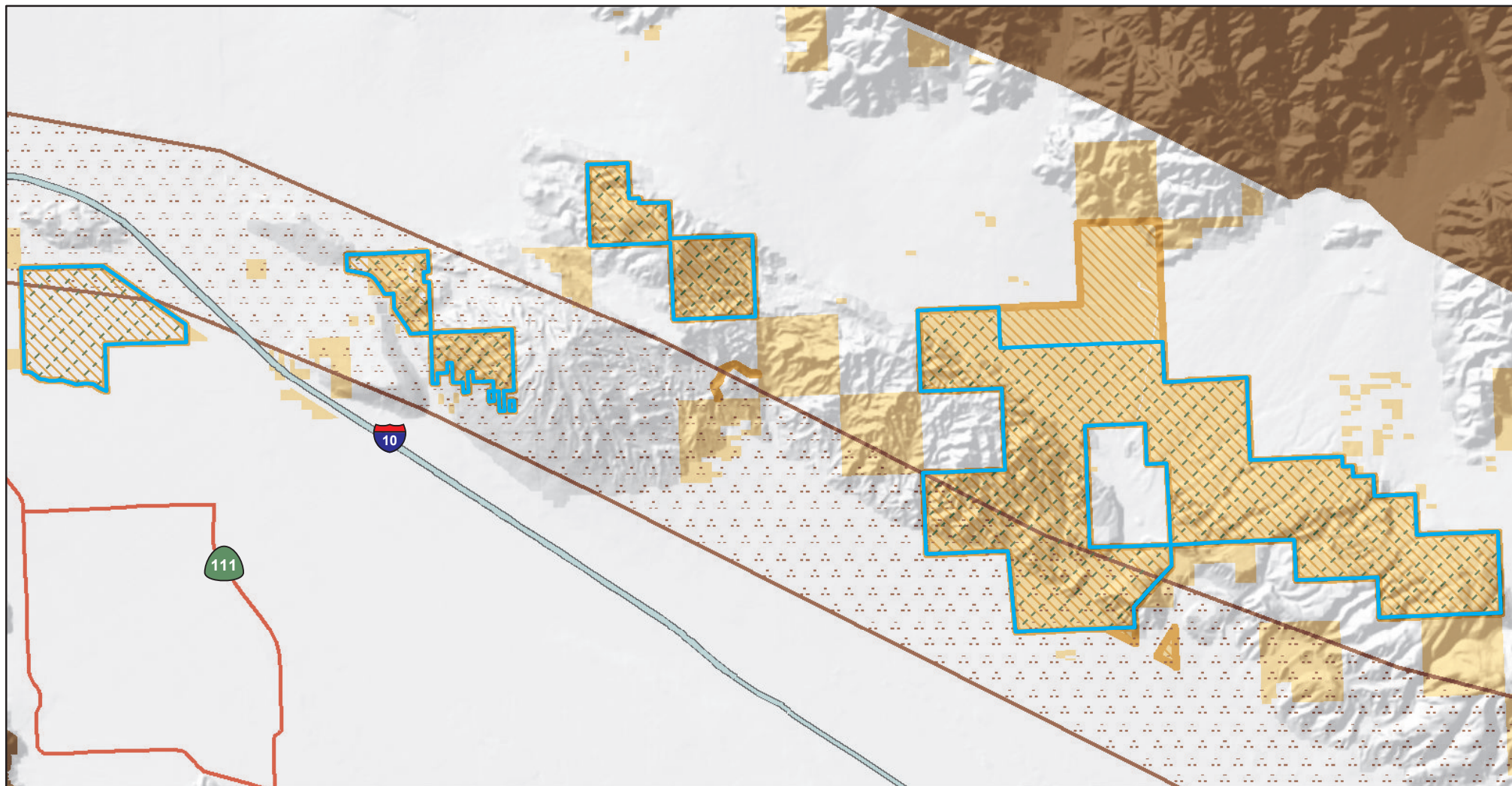
Coachella Valley Fringe-toed Lizard Alternative 2

8/26/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change

0 1 2
Miles





Conservation Footprint

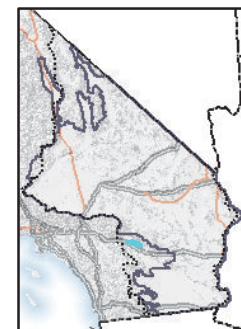
- | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | DRECP Boundary | Land Status |
| National Conservation Lands | CDCA Boundary | Bureau of Land Management |
| ACEC Boundaries | Transmission Corridor | |
| 1% Disturbance Cap | | |

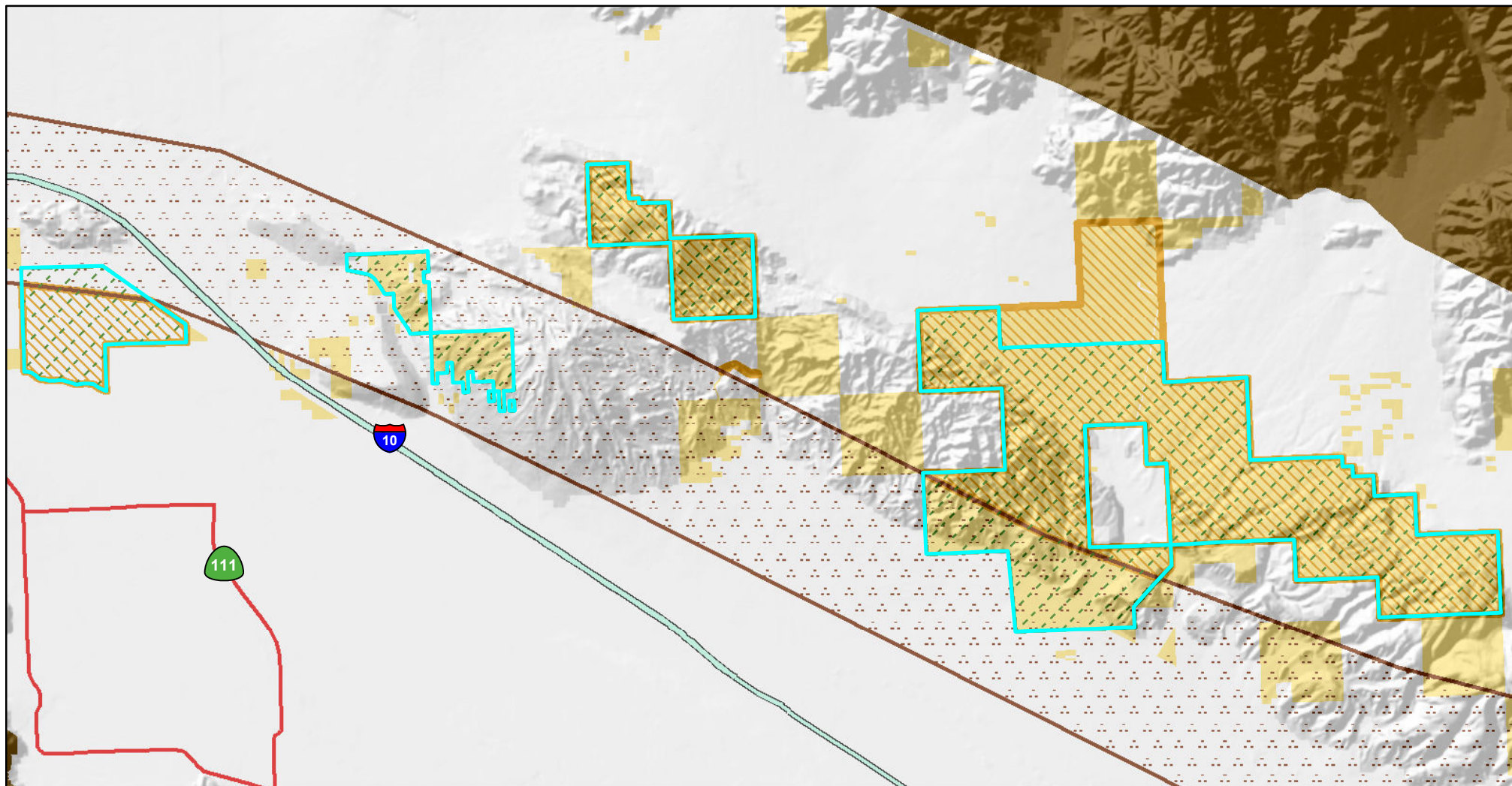
0 1 2
Miles

Coachella Valley Fringe-toed Lizard Alternative 3

8/26/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Conservation Footprint

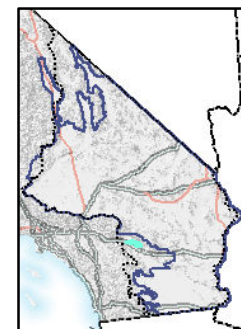
- | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| National Conservation Lands | DRECP Boundary | Land Status |
| Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | CDCA Boundary | |
| ACEC Boundaries | Transmission Corridor | Bureau of Land Management |
| 1% Disturbance Cap | | |

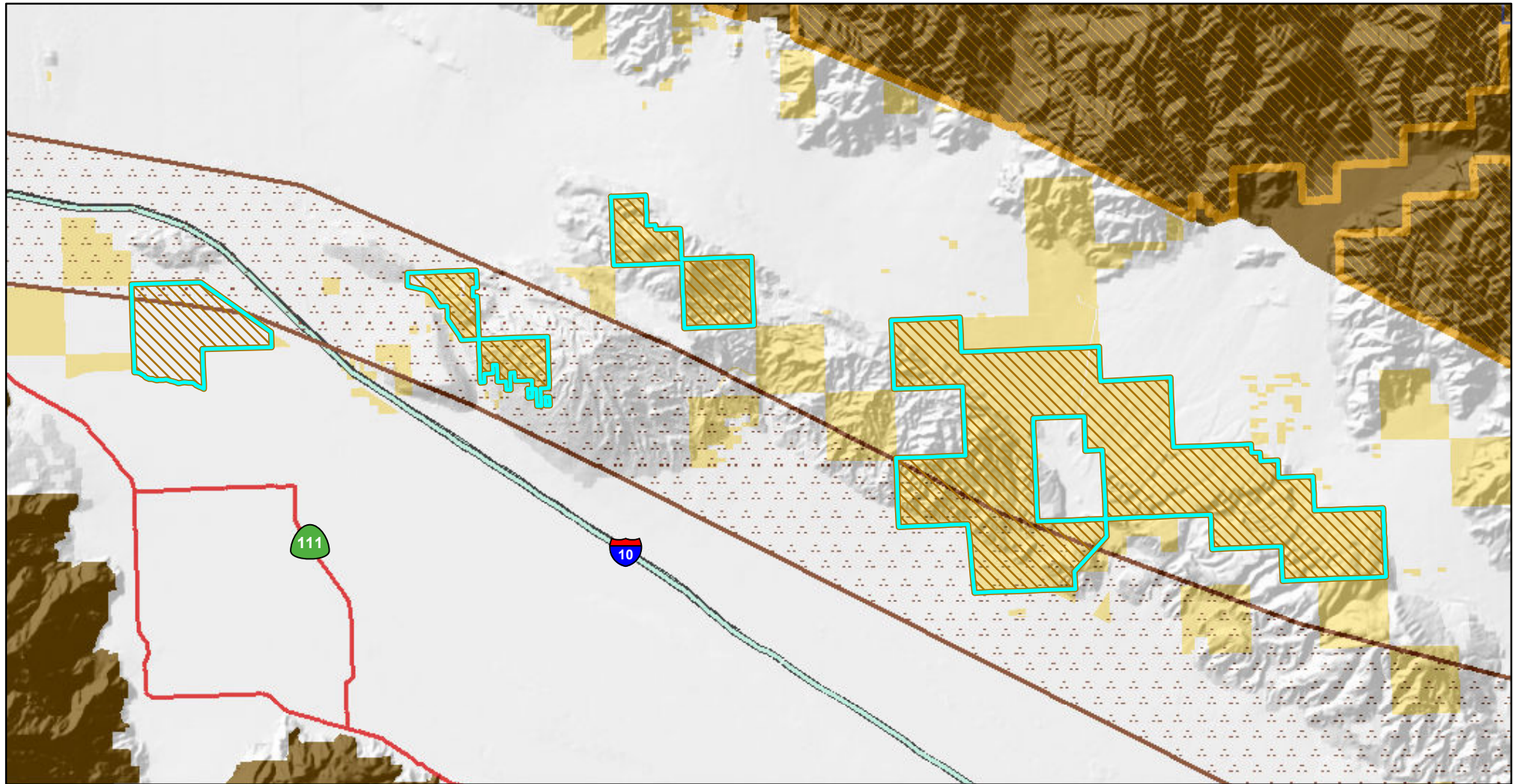
0 1 2
Miles

Coachella Valley Fringe-toed Lizard Alternative 4

8/27/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Conservation Footprint

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Existing ACEC | National Conservation Lands | Land Status |
| Transmission Corridor | Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | Bureau of Land Management |
| CDCA Boundary | | |
| DRECP Boundary | | |

0 2.5 5 Miles

Coachella Valley Fringe-toed Lizard

No Action

9/15/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change



Dos Palmas Preserve

National Conservation Lands Ecoregion: Coachella Valley and Lake Cahuilla

Description/Location: Dos Palmas is a nature preserve established through a partnership between The Nature Conservancy and the Bureau of Land management for the protection of wetlands, wildlife, desert plant communities and cultural resources. Dos Palmas is located northeast of the Salton Sea in Riverside County, California, and includes the lower part of Salt Creek which drains the western flank of the Orocopia, Chuckwalla and Chocolate mountains.

Nationally Significant Values:

Geological Values: Geologic features include the San Andreas Fault, where the American and Pacific Tectonic plate grind past one another, shaping the landscape and causing occasional earthquakes. The interesting hydrology and natural spring complex of the Preserve results from the convergences of several faults at the site.

Ecological Values: The 14,000 acres of the Dos Palmas ACEC features a variety of unique ecosystems in the Colorado Desert including sand dunes, salt flats, springs, seeps, artesian springs, and palm oases that provide sanctuary to several wildlife species. The most common ecosystems within the Preserve are the unique desert fan palm oases, with intriguing hydrological conditions. Federally endangered desert pupfish depend on these palm oases for shelter from predators and harsh temperatures. San Andreas Fault lines formed these oases by allowing water to flow from underground to the surface, creating substantial amounts of wetland habitat within the Preserve. The surrounding wetland habitat shelters the nests of threatened and endangered California Black Rail and Yuma Ridgeway's Rail, as well as providing safe passage for several migratory bird species. These hydrological conditions also provide a diversity hot-spot in the middle of the desert for dragonflies and damselflies. The flat-tailed horned lizard, a BLM Sensitive Species, occurs in the sand dunes located in the southeastern portion of the Preserve. Additional wildlife species that use the Preserve for its unique resources include western yellow bat, prairie falcons, black-necked stilts, snowy egrets, osprey, great blue herons, mountain lions, burro deer, and other smaller mammals. Human activity threatens the ecosystem sustainability and the natural diversity of Dos Palmas and as a result in 1998 the Dos Palmas ACEC Management Plan outlined the protection of these distinctive habitats. The new concrete-lined Coachella Canal has brought about a recent steep decline in water availability to ponds and oases previously available from sub-surface flow from the earlier earthen Coachella Canal.

Cultural Values: Dos Palmas was a historical stop along the Bradshaw Trail for stage coaches to drink and clean up at the springs located in this area. The Dos Palmas area is near the high shoreline of the ancient lake Cahuilla. Archaeological residential and cremation sites are known to be present along shorelines, oases, and near springs.

Hermann Ehrenberg stopped here overnight in 1866 and spread his bedroll under a brush ramada outside the stage station. He had \$3500 in gold from the placer field at La Paz. During the night he was shot through the heart, and robbed of the money. The station keeper, named Smith, reported that the assassin was an Indian. Charles D. Poston, friend of Ehrenberg, who had camped at Dos Palmas the previous night, expressed the opinion that the station keeper was the murderer. No one ever was prosecuted for the crime. A year later the new town of Arizona City on the Colorado River seven miles south of La Paz was renamed in honor of Ehrenberg.

The ranch house was built originally as a desert guest resort. But Raymond Morgan, who purchased the Rancho Dos Palmas, was the head of a very successful advertising agency in Hollywood. He was not interested in its commercial possibilities but he maintained the ranch as a desert retreat for his staff and friends.

Barry Atwater, the painter, had a little cabin there and painted some exquisite landscapes in the area.

From Chief Cabazon of the Desert Cahuilla Indians, Bradshaw learned the location of the springs and waterholes along the southern slope of the Chuckwalla Mountains--Dos Palmas, Canyon springs, Tabaseca tanks, Chuckwalla Spring, Mule Spring, and thence into the Palo Verde valley and the Colorado River. Bradshaw went over the route with an Indian guide, found the springs as they had been described by the Cahuilla chief--and began building a freight road.

Rancho dos Palmas was built in the 1920s of adobe brick. German-born entrepreneur Gertrude S. Tenderich converted the ranch into a guest lodge in the 1930s.

John Hilton, a noted desert landscape artist and legendary guide to General George S. Patton Jr. once worked as a handyman at the ranch.

Rancho Dos Palmas is the last remaining structure at Dos Palmas Preserve predating 2000. It is a marshy desert oasis near the northeast shore of the Salton Sea and is home to many threatened and endangered animal species.

The oasis was once a Bradshaw trail Stagecoach Stop, and later a station for the Southern Pacific Railroad.

Scientific Values: The Dos Palmas ACEC has exceptional scientific values related to the management, restoration, hydrology, and the archaeological resources within the Preserve. Better management practices are being developed to help provide the resources needed for this extraordinary habitat. Innovative restoration techniques are being practiced that would help redefine desert restoration in the Colorado Desert. Researchers and students from local universities and the USGS are investigating the hydrological conditions to better define the interactions between faults lines, plate tectonics, and the underground water table for insight on the formation of artesian springs and seeps. As for the archaeological resources, much of this ACEC would have been inundated by the infill of the ancient Lake Cahuilla on numerous occasions before written history of the area (pre 1500s). Past life forms from the lake lie preserved under eons of deposited sediments. The San Andreas Fault system which passes under the area is responsible for numerous topographical features which have altered the landscape and provided a variable landscape and diverse ecological loci. The scientific values are limitless when researching the distinctive characteristics of the Dos Palmas ACEC.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: Dos Palmas Area of Critical Environmental Concern Management Plan and Decision Record. EA No. CA-066-96-49. July 1998.

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Since preparation of the 1982 Salt Creek ACEC management plan, management has changed from single-species management to ecosystem management in order to maintain ecosystem functioning and the diversity of life within ecosystems. Over the past 150 years the Dos Palmas ecosystem has been altered by human activity on the springs. The BLM and TNC have a common goal to bring the Dos Palmas Ecosystem to a more natural state. Dos Palmas ACEC Management Plan shall supersede BLM's 1982 Salt Creek ACEC management plan. This area has relevant riparian, hydrologic, scenic

and geological history. There are several special status wildlife species, Yuma Clapper Rail, Black Clapper Rail, Fringe-toed Lizard, Desert Tortoise, desert pupfish, and several other sensitive species. Dos Palmas is also one of the highest diversities for Dragonflies and Damselflies. Dos Palmas was a historical stop along the Bradshaw Trail for stage coaches to drink and clean up at the springs located in this area. The Dos Palmas area is near the high shoreline of the ancient lake Cahuilla. Archaeological residential and cremation sites are known to be present along shorelines, oases, and near springs.

Overarching Goals: Ecosystem sustainability and the natural diversity of Dos Palmas are threatened by several factors including changes in the water regime, invasion of noxious plants and fish species, human-induced fires, uncontrolled off-highway vehicle use, and illegal collecting of wildlife. This Dos Palmas ACEC Management Plan outlines the management actions to safeguard ecological sustainability and natural diversity of Dos Palmas.

Where the CMAs in this Special Management Plan conflict from the CMAs included in Volume II of the Proposed LUPA and Final EIS, the more restrictive CMA would be applied (i.e., management that best supports resource conservation and limits impacts to the values for which the conservation unit was designated), unless otherwise specified.

If this area is included in the National Conservation Lands, the BLM will manage this area to protect the Nationally Significant Values above. Appropriate multiple uses will be allowed, consistent with this Special Unit Management Plan and the CMAs in Volume II. If an activity is not specifically covered by the CMAs, it will be allowed if it is consistent with the Nationally Significant Values, but prohibited if the uses conflict with those values.

Designation and Acreage by Alternative:

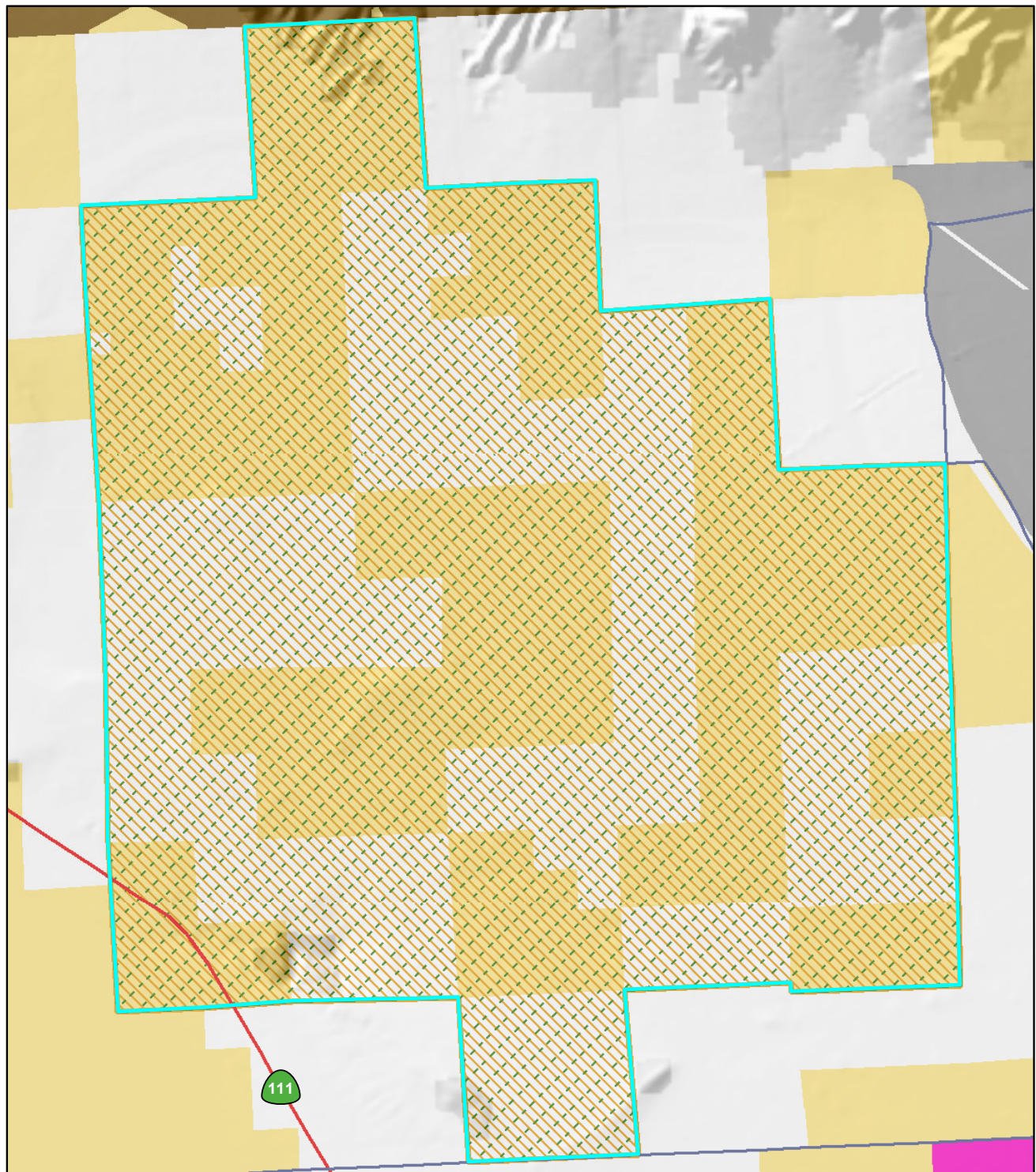
Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	8,300	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	8,330	8,330	0	1%
1	0	8,330	0	1%
2	8,330	8,330	0	1%
3	0	8,330	0	1%
4	0	8,330	0	1%

* Acreage values are for BLM managed land

Objectives (desired future condition)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
Ecosystem Management Actions B. Habitat Restoration and Maintenance Objective: to restore and enhance habitat for the desert pupfish, Yuma	Soil, water, air

<p>Clapper Rail and other sensitive species</p> <p>Actions: Utilize three sites for Borrow Pits that contain sand, gravel, fines, and dirt to use in construction and maintenance of fill requirements</p> <p>Allocations: prescribed burns will be approved by the local Air Quality Management Board; water quality monitoring will be conducted</p>	
<p>Ecosystem Management Actions</p> <p>B. Habitat Restoration and Maintenance</p> <p>Objective: to control spread of exotic plant species into native communities</p> <p>Action: control noxious exotic plants using “cut-stump” and to explore more efficient methods; use an integrated pest management (IPM) approach</p> <p>Objective: to promote a suitable vegetation cover for the successful reintroduction and maintenance of populations of Yuma Clapper Rail and desert pupfish in and around reconfigured fish ponds</p> <p>Action: promote vegetation cover that is suitable for the introduction and maintenance of Yuma Clapper rail and desert pupfish habitat; control nonnative wildlife species</p> <p>Objective: to restore and maintain a landscape around the ranch house that is congruent with the historical character of the site and amenable to human use and enjoyment</p> <p>Action: develop a landscaping plan to restore vegetation cover that enhances the historical character of the ranch</p>	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
<p>Ecosystem Management Actions</p> <p>A. Protection of Habitat</p> <p>Objective: to protect habitat for the federally listed desert pupfish (<i>Cyprinodon macularius</i>), the Yuma Clapper Rail (<i>Rallus longirostris yumanensis</i>), flat-tailed horned lizard, and other wildlife and plant species</p> <p>Actions: land acquisition to protect sensitive species’ habitat, control groundwater mining and illegal off-highway vehicle use; on-site caretaker to oversee tamarisk removal, maintain water system, and provide on-site management oversight; install signs to provide information to visitors and fences to minimize uncontrolled use of the ranch compound; manage fire as a useful tool</p> <p>B. Habitat Restoration and Maintenance</p> <p>Objective: to restore and enhance habitat for the desert pupfish, Yuma Clapper Rail, flat-tailed horned lizard, and other sensitive species</p> <p>Actions: reconfigure fish ponds to emulate natural wetlands, providing more habitat for pupfish and Yuma Clapper Rail; restore native plant communities and wildlife habitat</p>	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)
VRM II	Visual Resources
<p>Ecosystem Management Actions</p> <p>C. Public Outreach and Visitor Services</p> <p>Objective: to promote greater understanding and appreciation for the Dos Palmas ACEC while protecting the sensitive resources from uncontrolled use</p> <p>Actions: maintain existing trails and roads, access is limited to foot and wheelchair traffic, the trail and road system is needed to provide public and</p>	Trails and Travel Management

administrative access; construct a trailhead and several trail facilities to provide basic day-use accommodations for visitor use	
<p>Ecosystem Management Actions</p> <p>C. Public Outreach and Visitor Services</p> <p>Objective: to promote greater understanding and appreciation for the Dos Palmas ACEC while protecting the sensitive resources from uncontrolled use</p> <p>Actions: promote greater knowledge and appreciation through interpretive information and education program</p>	Recreation
<p>Objective: Consolidate through tenure adjustment.</p> <p>Management Action: Acquire inholdings, edge holdings and other interests from willing sellers</p>	Land Tenure
<p>Objective: Protect resource values of the ACEC</p> <p>Management Action: Land use authorization proposals (new, renewal, and amendment) will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis to assess whether they are compatible with the ACEC and its management goals.</p>	Rights of Way
<p>Closed to renewable energy development.</p> <p>ACECs are closed to geothermal leasing and development unless they overlap with a DFA where geothermal is allowed. Where there is overlap, ACECs are open to geothermal leasing with an NSO stipulation.</p>	Renewable Energy
<p>Existing plan recommends withdrawal of the ACEC from locatable mineral entry.</p> <p>Continue to allow mineral material disposals on a case by-case basis subject to site specific environmental analysis. Allow no disposal of mineral material in Lands with Wilderness Characteristics.</p> <p>No-surface occupancy leasable minerals.</p>	<p>Locatable Minerals</p> <p>Mineral Materials</p> <p>Non-energy Leaseables</p>




Conservation Footprint

 Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas

 National Conservation Lands

ACEC Boundaries

 1% Disturbance Cap

 DRECP Boundary

 CDCA Boundary

Renewable Footprint

 Development Focus Areas

Land Status

 Bureau of Land Management

 Department of Defense

0 0.5 1
Miles

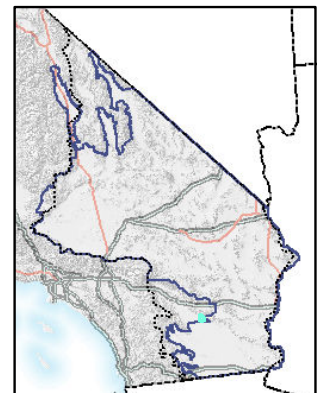


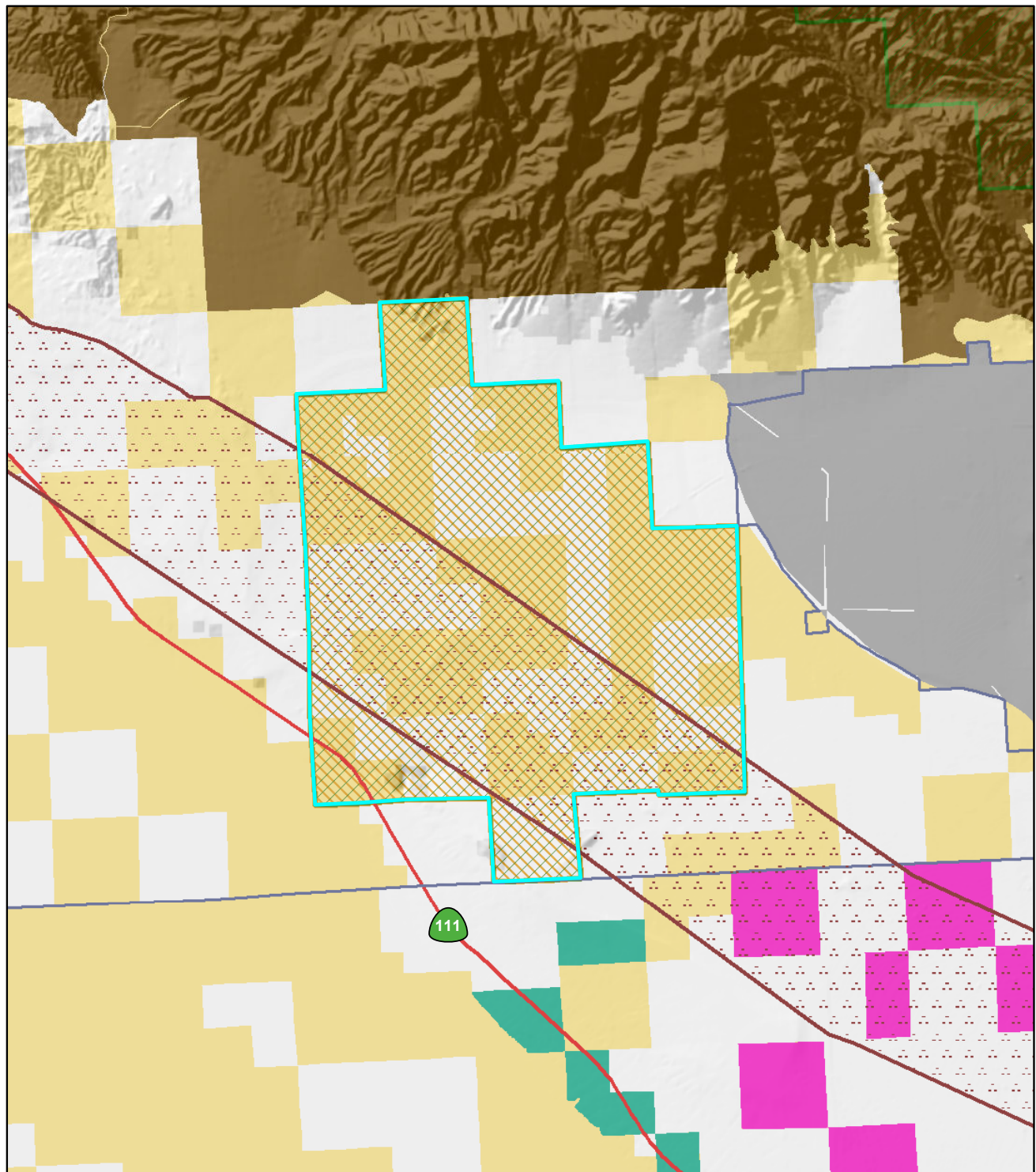
Dos Palmas

6/25/2015



Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Conservation Footprint

- Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
- National Conservation Lands
- Proposed ACEC

Renewable Footprint

- Development Focus Areas
- Variance Process Lands

- DRECP Boundary
- CDCA Boundary
- Transmission Corridor

Land Status

- Bureau of Land Management
- Department of Defense

0 1 2
Miles

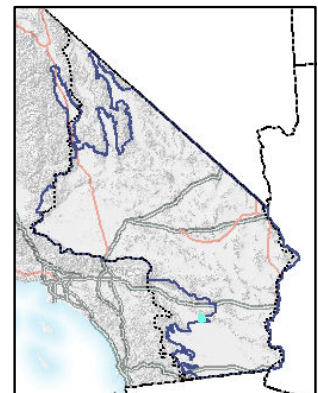


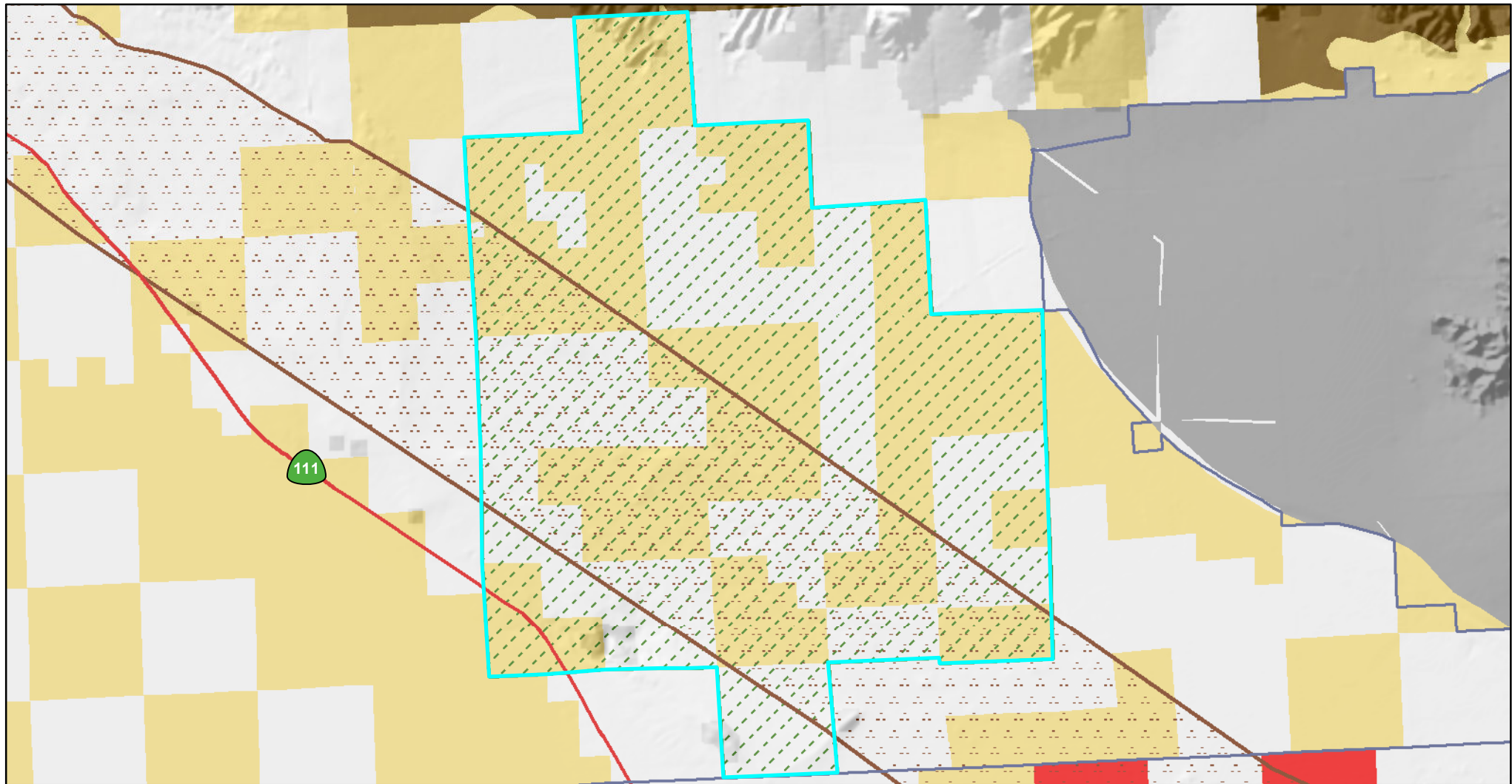
Dos Palmas

7/14/2015



Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Conservation Footprint

Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas

ACEC Boundaries

1% Disturbance Cap

DRECP Boundary

CDCA Boundary

Transmission Corridor

Renewable Footprint

Development Focus Areas

Variance Lands

Land Status

Bureau of Land Management

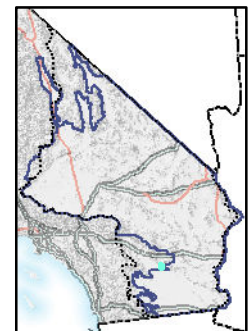
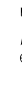
Department of Defense

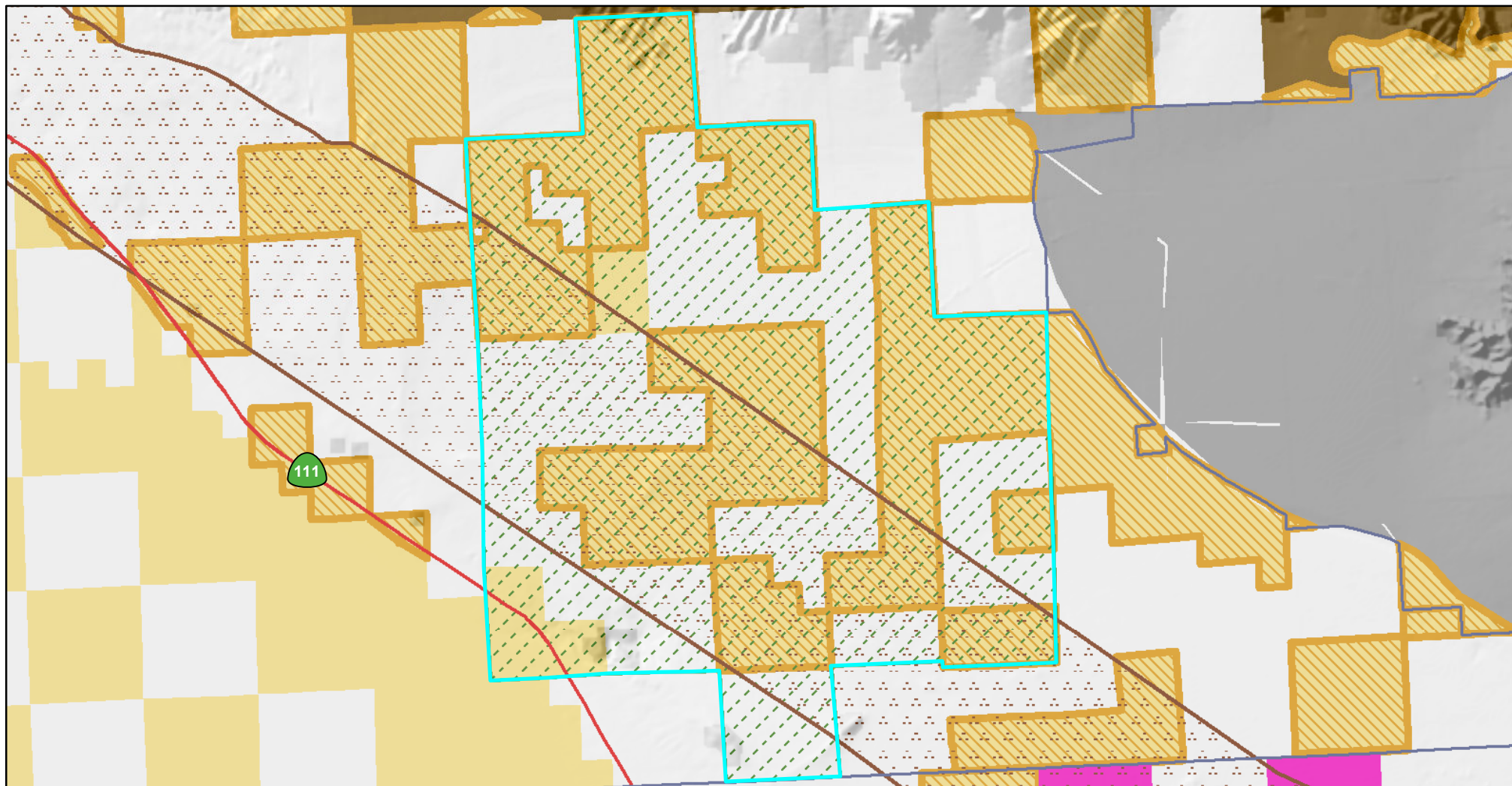
0 1 2
Miles

Dos Palmas Alternative 1

8/25/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change







Conservation Footprint

-  Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
-  National Conservation Lands
- ACEC Boundaries**
-  1% Disturbance Cap
-  DRECP Boundary
-  CDCA Boundary
-  Transmission Corridor

Land Status

-  Bureau of Land Management
-  Department of Defense

Renewable Footprint

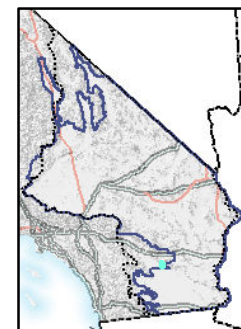
-  Development Focus Areas

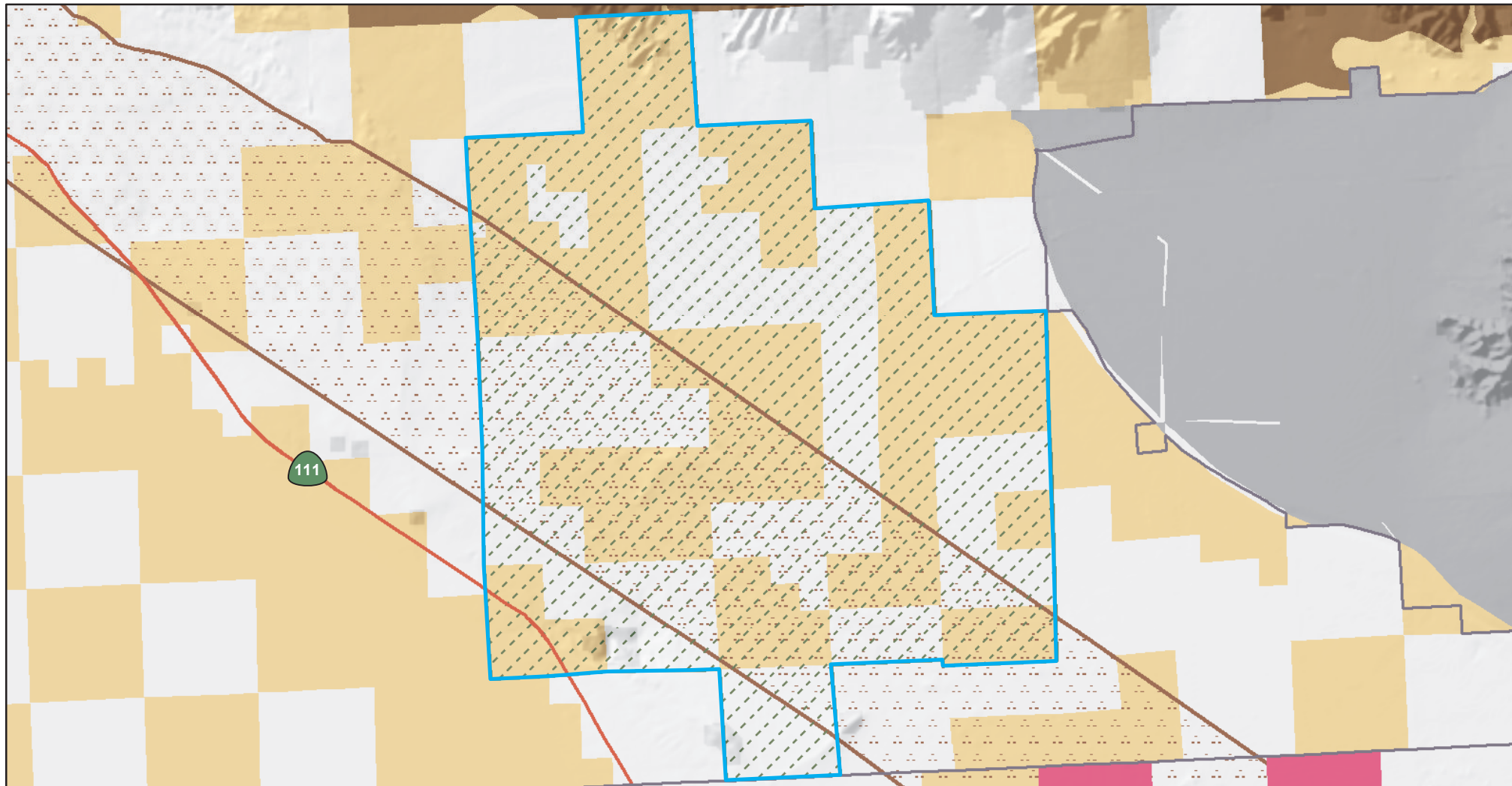
0 1 2 Miles

Dos Palmas Alternative 2

8/26/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Conservation Footprint

Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas

ACEC Boundaries

1% Disturbance Cap

DRECP Boundary

CDCA Boundary

Transmission Corridor

Renewable Footprint

Development Focus Areas

Land Status

Bureau of Land Management

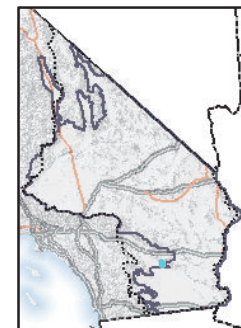
Department of Defense

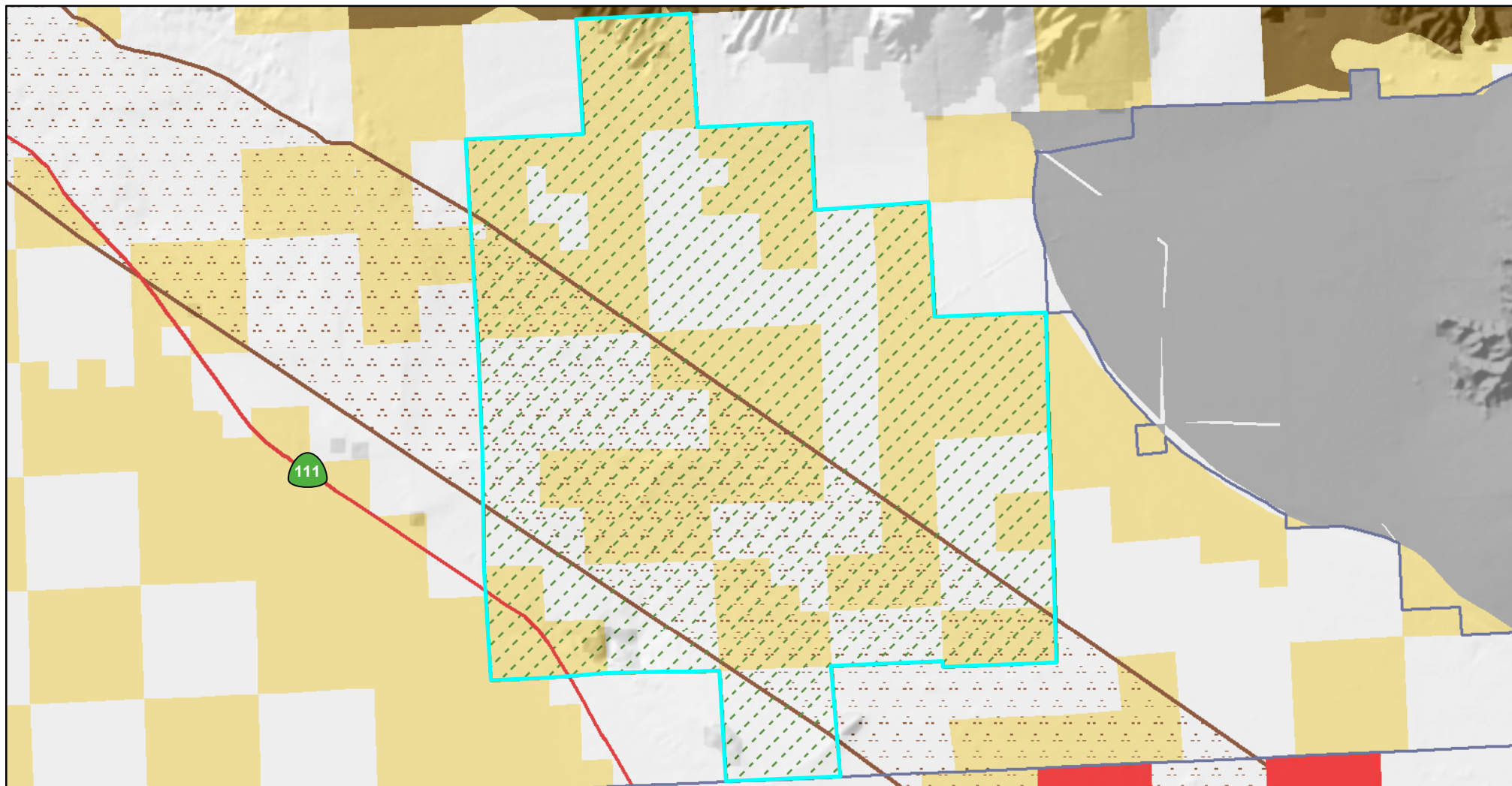
0 1 2 Miles

Dos Palmas Alternative 3






8/26/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change







Conservation Footprint

-  Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
-  DRECP Boundary
-  CDCA Boundary
-  1% Disturbance Cap
-  Transmission Corridor



ACEC Boundaries

-  1% Disturbance Cap

Renewable Footprint

-  Development Focus Areas
-  Variance Lands

Land Status

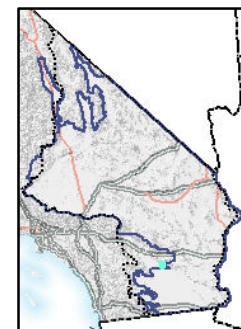
-  Bureau of Land Management
-  Department of Defense

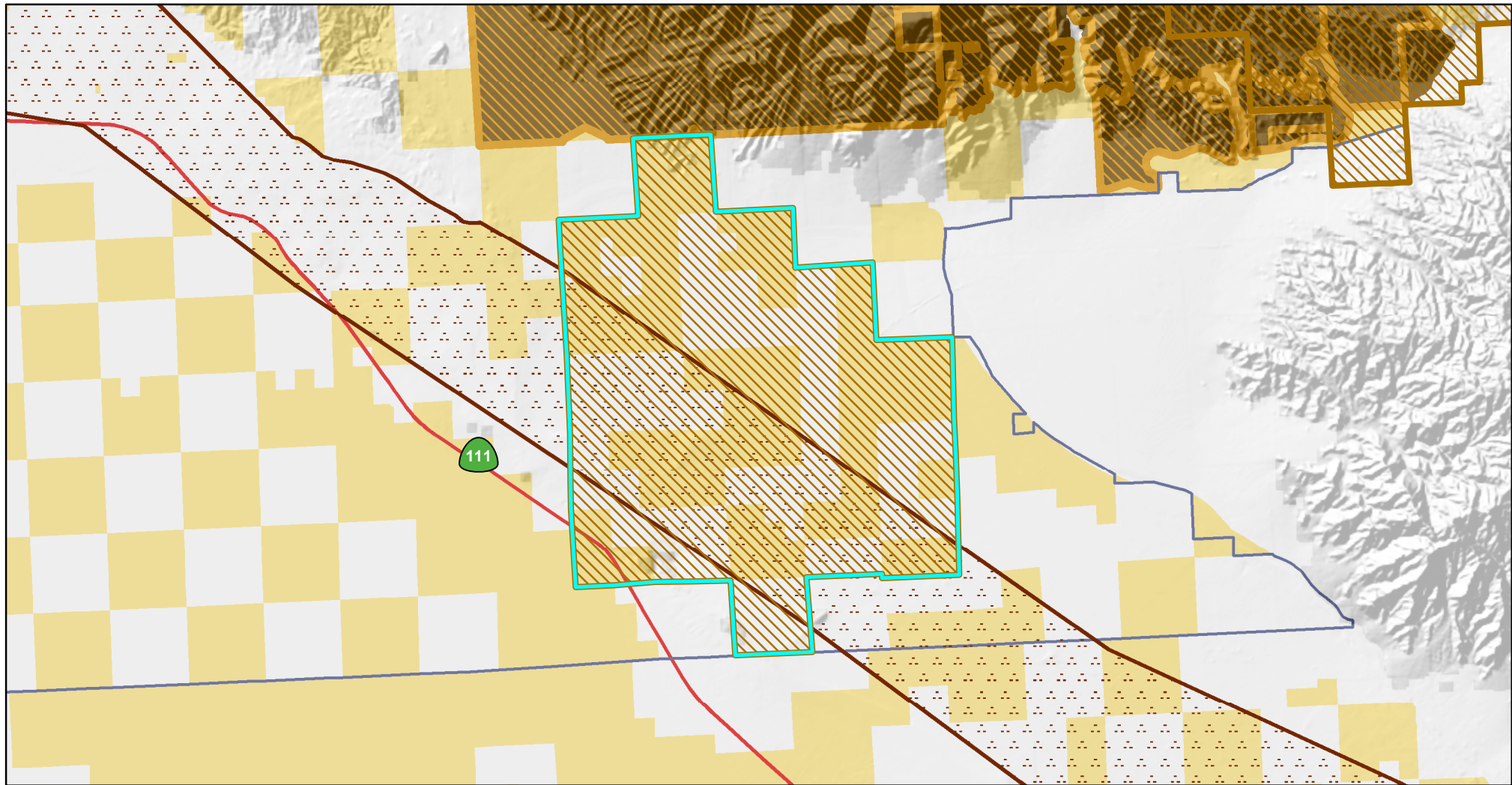
0 0.5 1
Miles

Dos Palmas Alternative 4

8/27/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Conservation Footprint

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Existing ACEC | National Conservation Lands | Land Status |
| Transmission Corridor | Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | Bureau of Land Management |
| CDCA Boundary | | |
| DRECP Boundary | | |

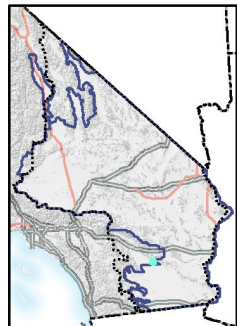
0 2.5 5 Miles

Dos Palmas

No Action

9/15/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change



Whitewater Canyon

National Conservation Lands Ecoregion: Coachella Valley and Pinto Lucerne Valley and Eastern Slopes

Description/Location: Whitewater Canyon is located in southeastern tip of the San Bernardino Mountains north of I-10 in the San Gorgonio Pass. The ACEC is surrounded on the north and west by the San Gorgonio Wilderness.

Nationally Significant Values:

Ecological: The Whitewater Canyon ACEC is located in an ecotone where desert, mountain, and coastal influences merge. The ACEC includes a portion of the San Gorgonio Wilderness and contains the perennial Whitewater River which is eligible for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System. The Whitewater River drains one of the largest watersheds in the San Bernardino Mountains, and eventually flows through the Coachella Valley and into the Salton Sea. Whitewater Canyon is recognized as one of the most unique features of the Coachella Valley and includes over 16,000 acres of riparian woodlands, mesquite thickets, and desert fan palm oases. These natural communities provide the additional ecosystem service of carbon sequestration. This rich riparian habitat hosts the endangered Southwest willow flycatcher and Bell's vireo and provides the opportunity to see migrating summer tanagers and vermilion flycatchers. The canyon has a robust population of bighorn sheep, deer, and bear and is an important wildlife corridor between the San Bernardino and San Jacinto Mountains. It boasts spectacular canyon scenery with views across the San Gorgonio Pass of the north face of Mount San Jacinto. The ACEC is an outstanding representation of intact desert riparian ecosystems. The conservation lands of the Whitewater Canyon ACEC are also an integral piece of the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan, a multi-agency HCP.

In addition to its ecological values, the ACEC is traversed by several miles of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, which is the main access into the surrounding San Gorgonio Wilderness. The Whitewater Preserve, owned and managed by the Wildlands Conservancy, is in the middle of the ACEC, along with other conservation lands owned by the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission and the Friends of the Desert Mountains. The BLM works closely with the partners in managing the resources of the ACEC and providing visitor access, interpretation, and education programs. The Whitewater Canyon ACEC and the adjacent San Gorgonio Wilderness are part of the proposed Sand to Snow National Monument.

Cultural values: An historic Indian village is located in the northern part of the ACEC, as well as other important sites to the Indian population in the area. The hamlet of Bonnie Bell was a stagecoach stop along the Bradshaw Trail leading to Dos Palmas and on to Ehrenberg across the Colorado River.

Scientific values: The area has high scientific values due to its importance as a wildlife corridor, one of the few free flowing rivers in Southern California, its location in the transition between coastal, desert, and mountains, and the diversity of the plant and wildlife species. The ACEC has been the focus of study and research related to migration patterns of bighorn sheep and other animals between the San Bernardino Mountains and San Jacinto Mountains. The area is easily accessible to students and researchers, with ongoing studies being conducted by the University of California and other institutions.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: ACEC Plan No. 49, 09/28/1982

Relevance and Importance Criteria:

Relative riparian, wildlife, scenic and cultural values. The northern 2/3 of the ACEC is included in a

wilderness area, and Whitewater Canyon is located in an ecotone where desert, mountain and coastal influences merge. These features, as well as a perennial stream running through the canyon, contribute to the area's diverse plant and animal life. Some areas within the ACEC provide a combination of meteorological, geological, hydrological, topographical features that have been identified as important climate refugia (slow/minimized climate changes) for wildlife species. An historic Indian village is also located in the northern part of the ACEC, as well as other important sites to the Indian population in the area. Its scenic beauty also makes it a popular recreational area for the public.

National Historic and Scenic Trails: This unit overlaps a portion of the Pacific Crest Trail.

Recreation Area: This unit overlaps with the Pacific Crest Trail SRMA and the Sand to Snow SRMA.

Overarching Goals: Protect biological, riparian, scenic and cultural values of Whitewater Canyon, while providing for compatible public uses.

Where the CMAs in this Special Management Plan conflict from the CMAs included in Volume II of the Proposed LUPA and Final EIS, the more restrictive CMA would be applied (i.e. management that best supports resource conservation and limits impacts to the values for which the conservation unit was designated), unless otherwise specified.

If this area is included in the National Conservation Lands, the BLM will manage this area to protect the Nationally Significant Values above. Appropriate multiple uses will be allowed, consistent with this Special Unit Management Plan and the CMAs in Volume II. If an activity is not specifically covered by the CMAs, it will be allowed if it is consistent with the Nationally Significant Values, but prohibited if the uses conflict with those values.

Designation and Acreage by Alternative:

Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	14,000	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	3,046	14,000	0	1%
1	2,500	14,000	0	1%
2	3,000	14,000	0	1%
3	3,000	14,000	0	1%
4	2,500	14,000	0	1%

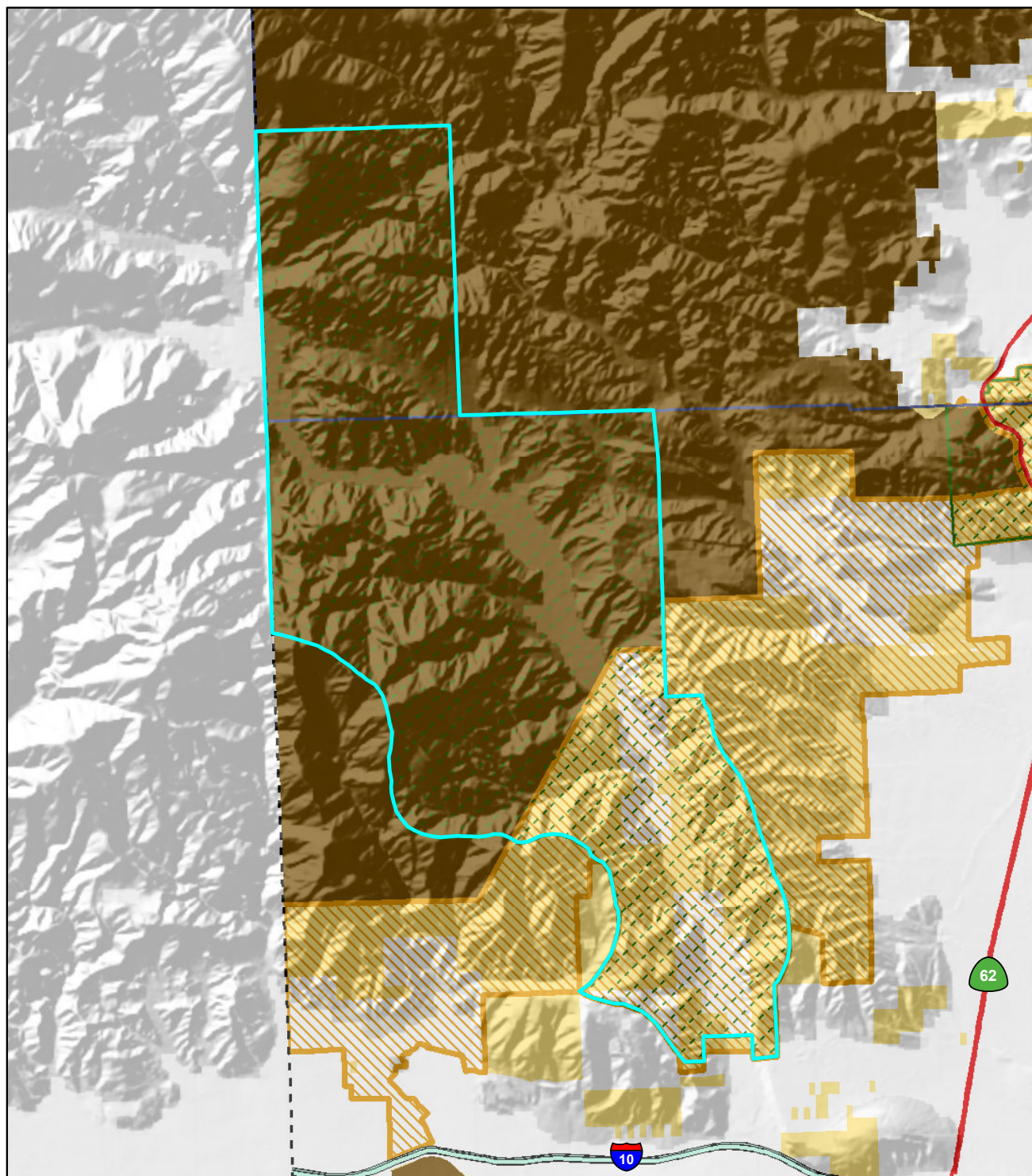
*** Acreage values are for BLM managed lands**

All Action Alternatives:

This ACEC overlaps San Geronio Wilderness. The portion of this ACEC that overlaps with the wilderness will be removed from this ACEC, to resolve the dual designation. The portion that is outside of wilderness will remain an ACEC.

Objectives (desired future condition)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
The portion of river within the ACEC and wilderness area is eligible and classified as “wild” for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System.	Soil, water, air
Desert Fan Palm Oasis present Objective: Identify any sensitive botanical species within ACEC Action: Perform botanical survey	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
Federally listed: Arroyo southwestern toad Least Bell’s vireo Desert bighorn sheep Special Status Species: Southwestern willow flycatcher Summer tanager Yellow warbler Yellow breasted chat Gray vireo Crissal thrasher Objective: Protect ACEC’s reptile populations from illegal collectors Action: Post signs with state regulations on reptile collecting Objective: Decrease illegal reptile collection Action: Increase compliance with resource protections Objective: Manage bighorn sheep and deer populations within ACEC Action: Establish cooperative management with San Bernardino National Forest staff	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)
Objective 1: Protect biodiversity and manage for resilience (protect climate refugia and provide for migration corridors). Management Action 1: Prioritize habitat enhancement in areas expected to provide for the greatest level of resiliency (good response or rehabilitation results after significant disturbance such as fire) and or resistance to change (e.g. climate refugia). Management Action 2: Consider actions that enhance the primary productivity of climate refugia with native species restoration, reduced soil surface disturbance, and habitat infrastructure to increase carrying capacity of refugia (e.g., wetland, oasis). Management Action 3: Maintain migration corridor integrity by minimizing obstructions (fences, roads), disturbances (limiting access to water and shade during peak temperatures) and habitat fragmentation. Objective 2: Maintain and or enhance key ecosystem processes (e.g., carbon sequestration, water residence time) and prepare and respond to significant disturbances to the environment (e.g. floods).	Climate Change and Adaptation

<p>Management Action 1: Develop proactive and responsive management actions for potentially dangerous and damaging disturbances to the environment, which are exacerbated by climate change (e.g. wildfire, flash floods, etc.).</p> <p>Management Action 2: Minimize carbon sequestration losses from management activities by reducing impacts to vegetation, soil structure and soil biota.</p> <p>Management Action 3: Leverage disturbance events and other landscape changes, when possible, as opportunities to assess climate adaptation actions. For example, revegetation objectives for projected climate scenarios benefiting multiple ecosystem services (habitat and carbon sequestration objectives).</p>	
<p>VRM Class II</p> <p>Portion of Pacific Crest Trails runs through ACEC</p> <p>Portion of California Riding and Hiking Trail runs through ACEC</p>	Visual Resources
<p>Objective: Provide recreation opportunities that are consistent with resource protection</p> <p>Objective: Minimize effects on sensitive wildlife and plant life by recreationists</p> <p>Action: Create small recreation area, consult local landowners</p>	Recreation
<p>Objective: Protect resource values of the ACEC</p> <p>Management Action: Land use authorization proposals (new, renewal, and amendment) will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis to assess whether they are compatible with the ACEC and its management goals.</p>	Rights of Way
<p>Objective: Consolidate through tenure adjustment.</p> <p>Management Action: Acquire inholdings, edge holdings and other interests from willing sellers.</p>	Land Tenure
<p>Closed to renewable energy development.</p> <p>ACECs are closed to geothermal leasing and development unless they overlap with a DFA where geothermal is allowed. Where there is overlap, ACECs are open to geothermal leasing with an NSO stipulation.</p>	Renewable Energy
<p>Based on existing management plan, closed to leasable minerals and mineral materials.</p>	<p>Locatable Minerals</p> <p>Mineral Materials</p> <p>Non-energy Leasables</p>

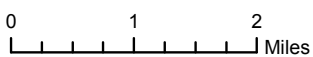


Conservation Footprint

- Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
- National Conservation Lands
- DRECP Boundary
- CDCA Boundary
- Bureau of Land Management

ACEC Boundaries

- 1% Disturbance Cap

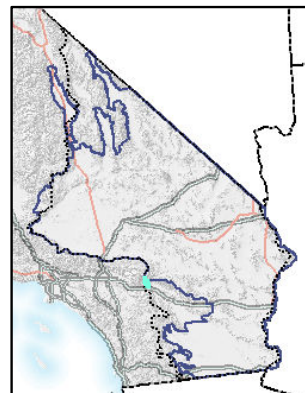


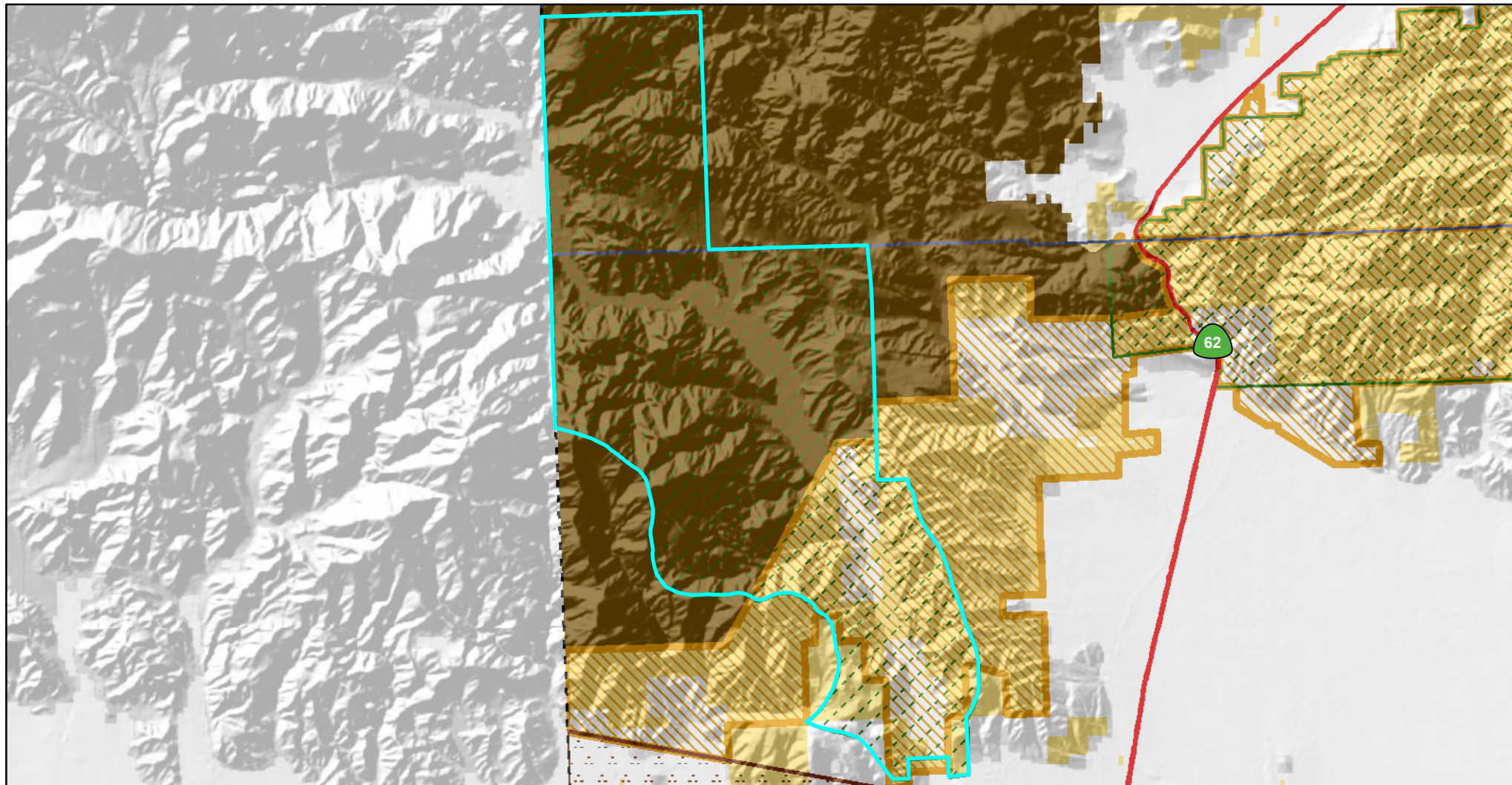
Whitewater Canyon

6/25/2015



Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Conservation Footprint

Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas

National Conservation Lands

ACEC Boundaries

1% Disturbance Cap

DRECP Boundary

CDCA Boundary

Transmission Corridor

Land Status

Bureau of Land Management

Whitewater Canyon

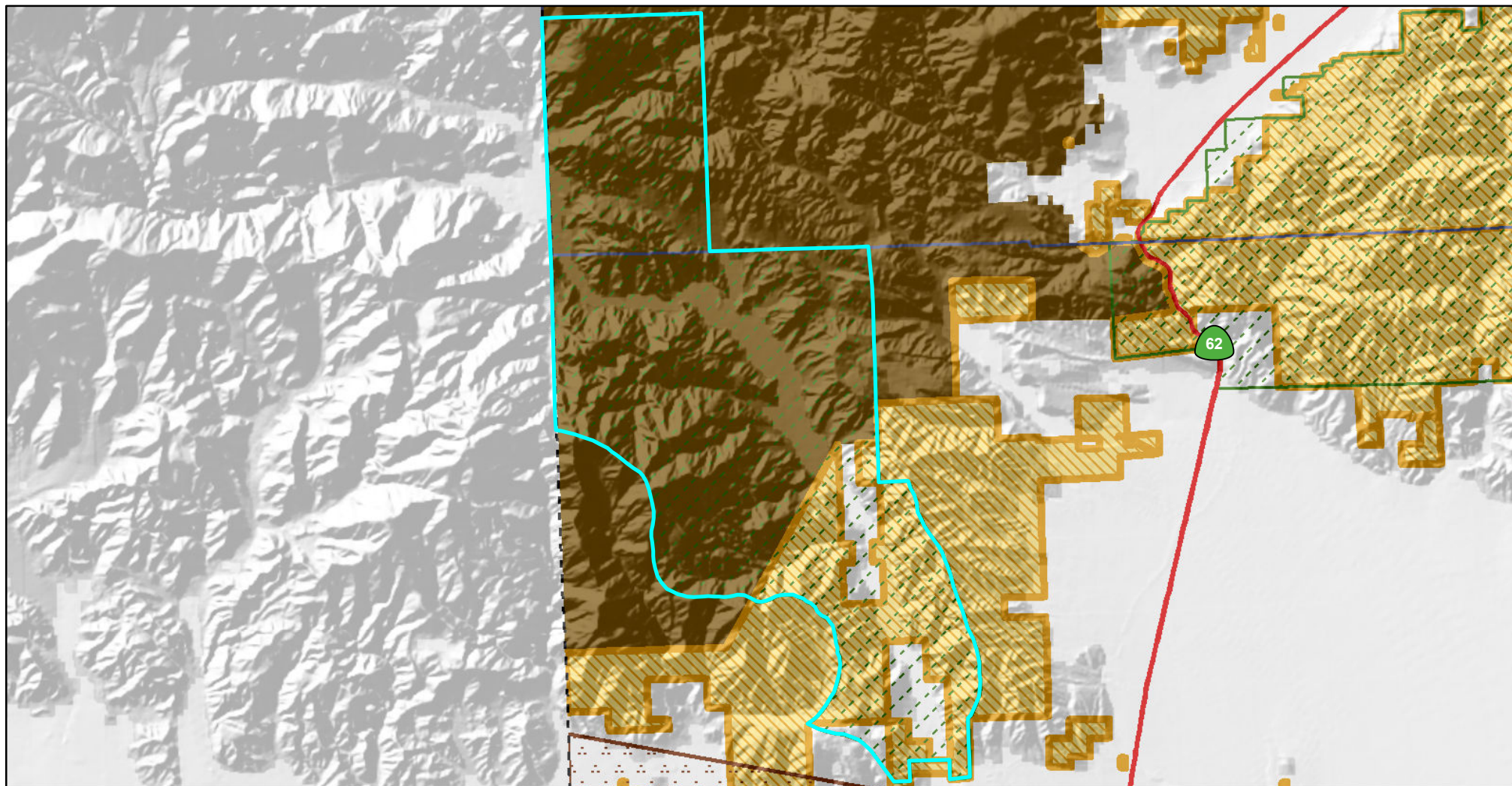
Alternative 1

8/25/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change

0 1 2 Miles





Conservation Footprint

Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas

National Conservation Lands

ACEC Boundaries

1% Disturbance Cap

DRECP Boundary

CDCA Boundary

Transmission Corridor

Land Status

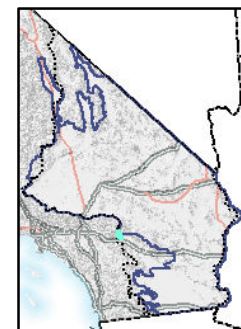
Bureau of Land Management

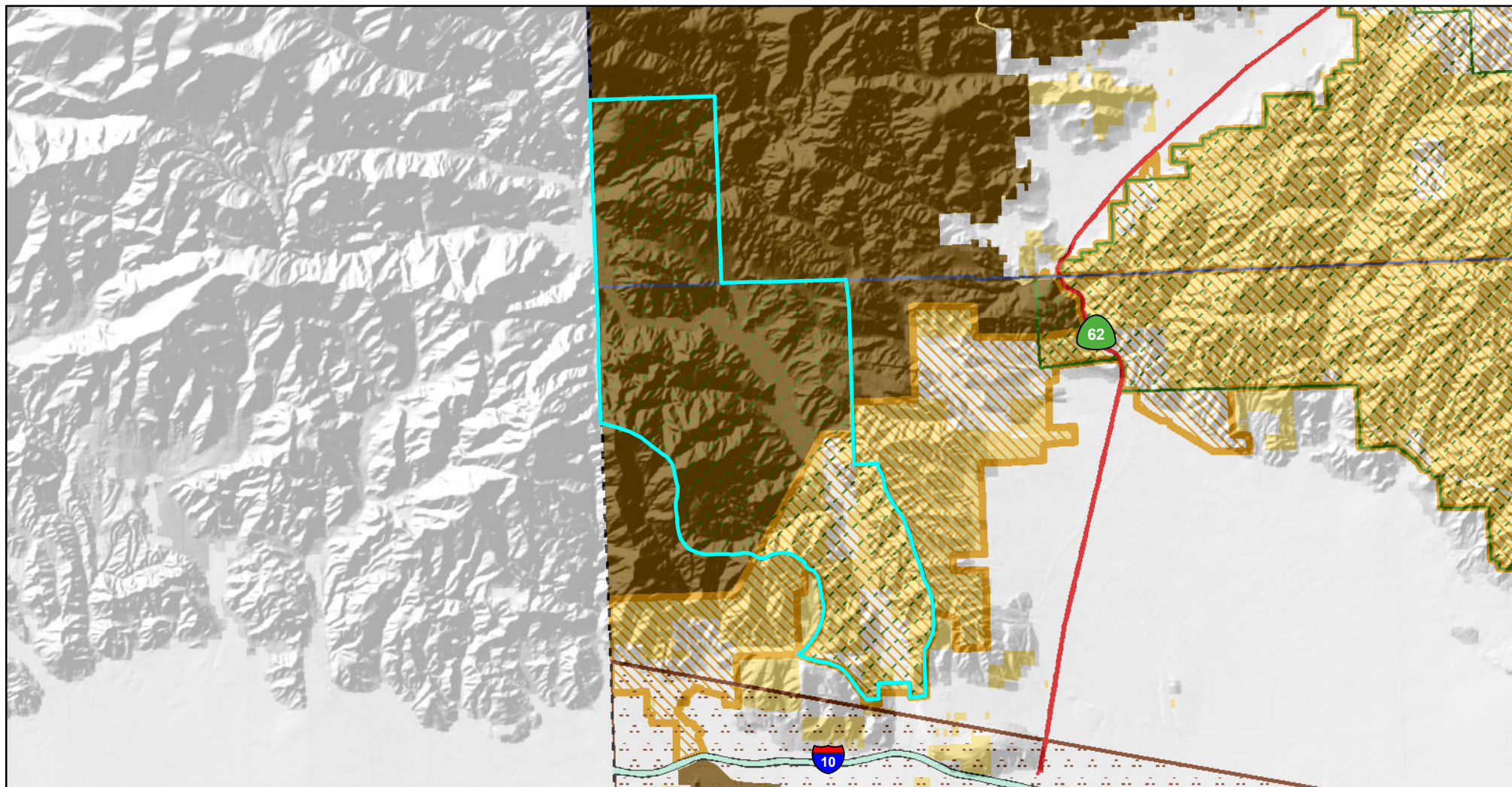
0 1 2 Miles

Whitewater Canyon Alternative 2

8/26/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Conservation Footprint

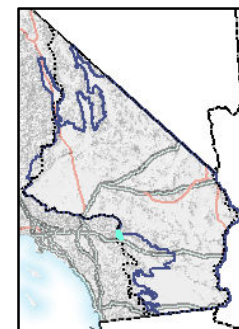
- | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | DRECP Boundary | Land Status |
| National Conservation Lands | CDCA Boundary | Bureau of Land Management |
| ACEC Boundaries | Transmission Corridor | |
| 1% Disturbance Cap | | |

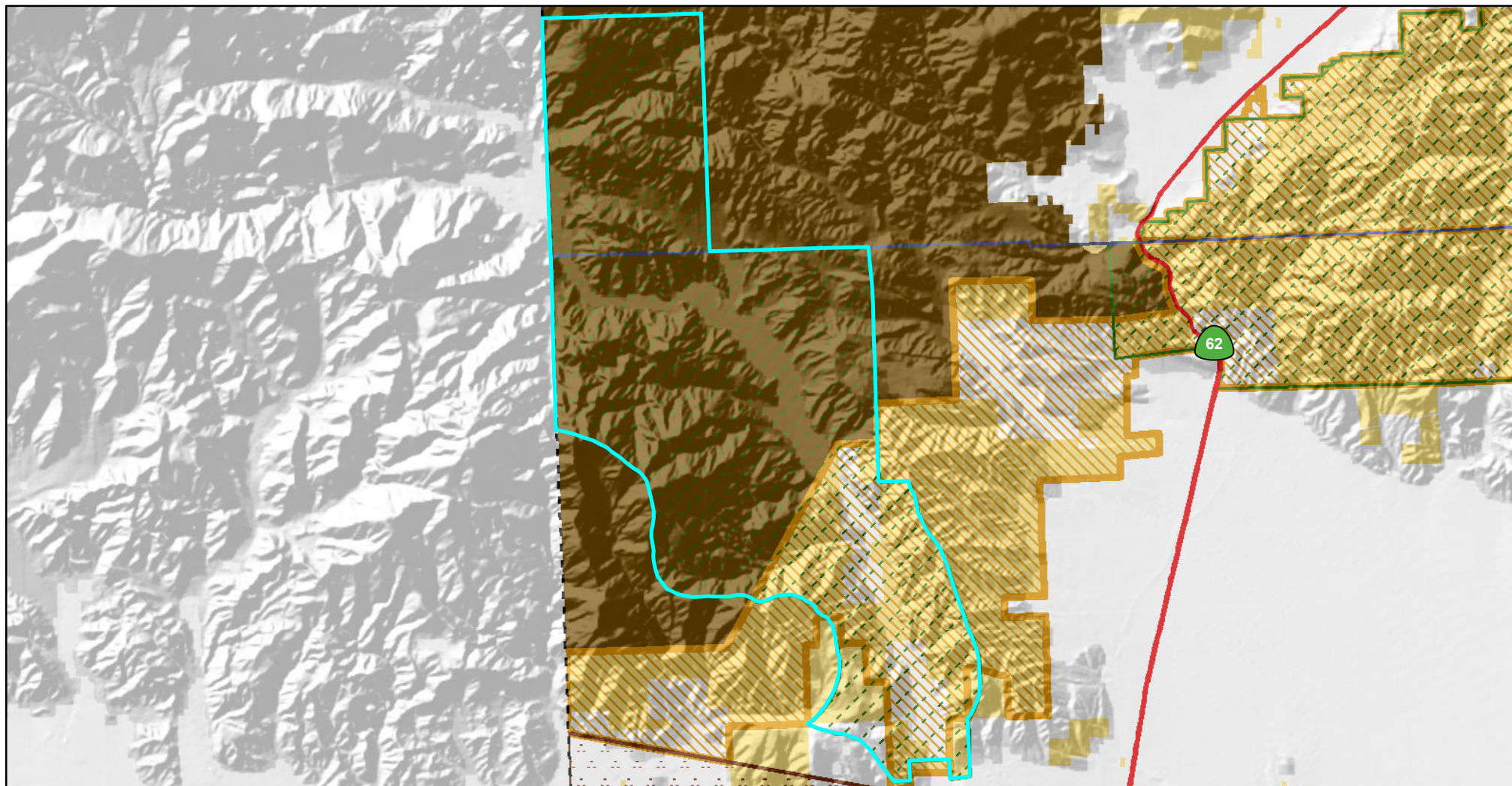
0 1 2
Miles

Whitewater Canyon Alternative 3








8/27/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Conservation Footprint

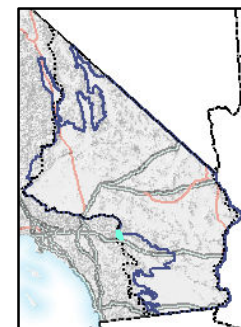
- | | | |
|---|---|---|
|  Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas |  DRECP Boundary | Land Status |
|  National Conservation Lands |  CDCA Boundary |  Bureau of Land Management |
| ACEC Boundaries |  Transmission Corridor | |
|  1% Disturbance Cap | | |

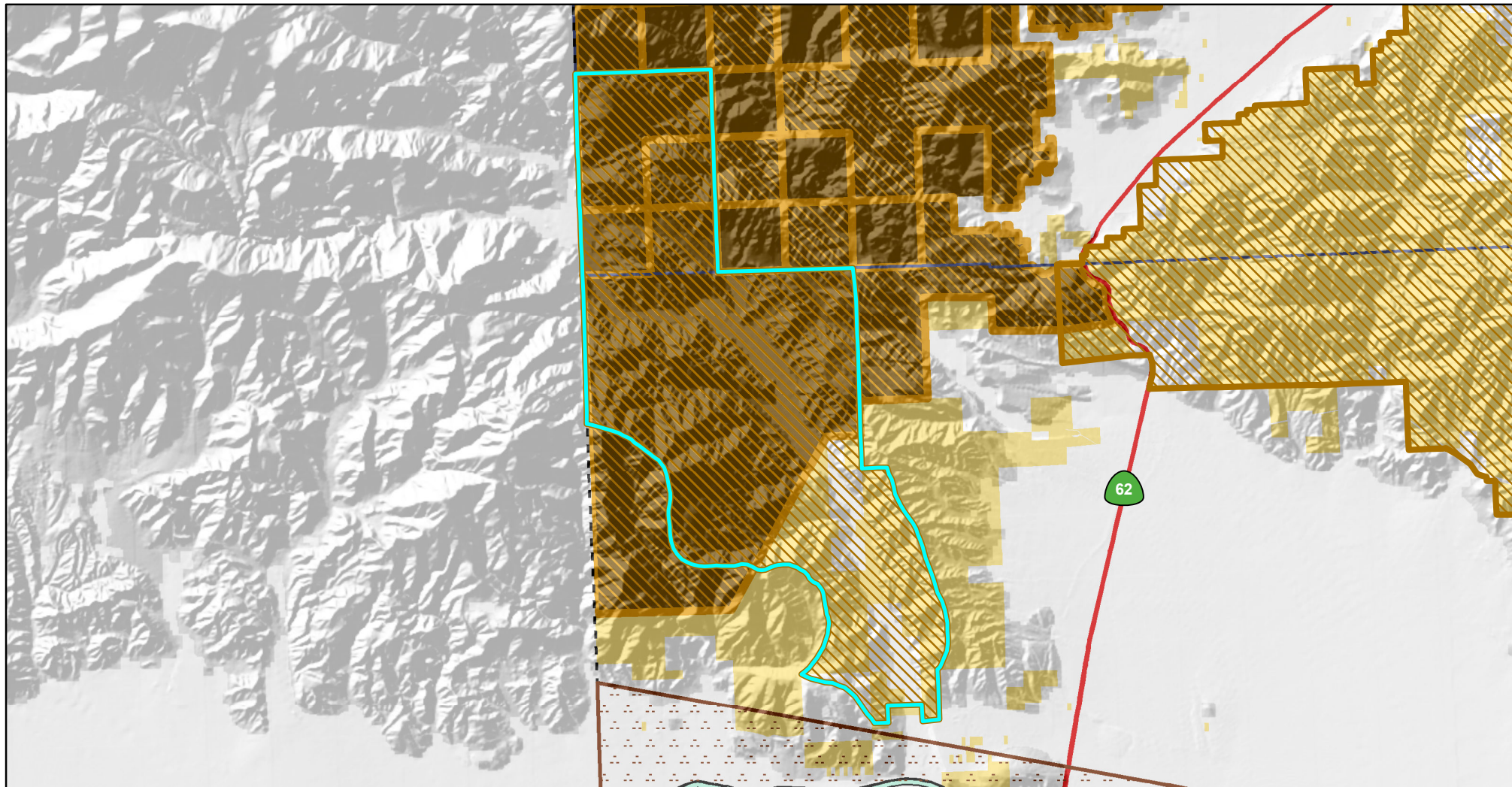
0 1 2 Miles

Whitewater Canyon Alternative 4








8/27/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Conservation Footprint

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
|  Existing ACEC |  National Conservation Lands | Land Status |
|  Transmission Corridor |  Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas |  Bureau of Land Management |
|  CDCA Boundary | | |
|  DRECP Boundary | | |

Whitewater Canyon

No Action

9/15/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change

0 2.5 5
Miles

